The Middlebury Campus

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College preparing pandemic flu plan

By Ben Salkowe
Editor in Chief

Several weeks into the 1918 fall semester, a number of out-of-state students began to develop colds. The colds soon led to fevers and chills, but the symptoms did not initially raise alarm and there was little worry on the campus until one of the students, Charles Thompson of Maplewood, N.J., became "severely prostrated" and died suddenly on Sept. 26. A week later a junior, Charles Dana Carlson of Peacham, Vt., died suffering the same symptoms.

By mid-October, local papers were reporting that the global epidemic of influenza, which would affect 25 percent of the U.S. population and kill 20-40 million people worldwide, had reached Middlebury.

Carlson was the first person at the College or in the town to perish from the 1918 Pandemic Flu. The administration responded by quarantining students and prohibiting them from leaving the campus. The quarantine was not unusual, as an English class of forty students had been locked in for three days earlier that spring, when Gertrude Burditt '19 gave them all scarlet fever.

Beyond the two young men, the College escaped the virus with minimal tragedy. In *The Campus*, students described an effective health system. One female student complained to her mother, "since morning I have had six doctors."

Now, nearly nine decades after the influenza pandemic, College ad-

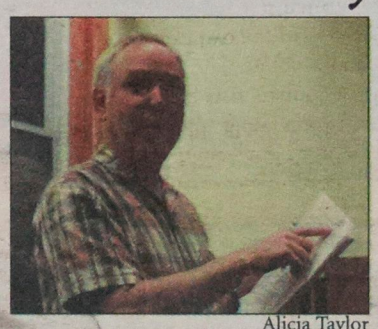
See College, page 4

Alicia Taylor

Aaah, see ya...in the semis!

Supported by energetic crowds at Kenyon Arena, the men's and women's hockey teams advanced to the Division III Frozen Four after quarterfinal wins over the weekend. The men will make their sixth straight trip to the NCAA semifinals while the women will be making their fourth consecutive appearance in the semis.

Committee proposes multi-major limits



Alicia Taylor

Prof. of Mathematics Pete Schumer

By Zamir Ahmed
Associate Editor

Members of the faculty deliberated a proposal to restrict the number of majors and minors students can declare, and when they can declare them, at the monthly faculty meeting on Monday. The proposal up for discussion also calls for a change in the deadlines for making such decisions. The proposal drew objections from faculty members who felt that the measure would hurt their department's ability to attract students who become interested in a field after the major and minor declaration deadline has passed.

The proposal, which was introduced by the Educational Affairs Committee (EAC) and calls for the elimination of triple majors, stems from recommendation number 37 of the College's Strategic Plan and is aimed at taking pressure off the curriculum and faculty. The measure would allow students to declare at most two majors without the option for a minor or one major with at most two minors.

"We felt that the faculty was almost unanimous in wanting to eliminate the triple major to work towards reducing some credentialing," said Baldwin Professor of Mathematics and Natural Philosophy Pete Schumer, a member of the EAC. In his presentation of the bill to the faculty, Schumer said that the proposal will "add a little bit of structure to what students can choose as far as majors and minors, to allow departments to plan ahead in a more timely fashion."

See EAC, page 2

Event planning process streamlined

By Brian Fung
News Editor

The College's two largest programming boards will unite this spring in an effort to promote student participation in campus programming and to streamline coordination, according to Doug Adams, director of the Center for Campus Activities and Leadership. Planned changes will consolidate the work of the Middlebury College Activities Board (MCAB) and the Inter-Commons Council (ICC), and could be finalized as early as the end of March.

Members of both MCAB and ICC came together in a meeting on March 3 to discuss the prospect of joining forces.

"[We wanted] to see if there were ways to make the programming more intuitive, to centralize the system," said Adams.

Under the new arrangement now being negotiated, MCAB and ICC representatives will serve together on three general programming boards responsible for organizing social functions, large concerts and speaker visits. The exact number of subcommittees operating within those three groups has yet to be confirmed, but MCAB President Colleen Sullivan '07 said she expects many existing committees to assume additional responsibilities.

Focus on Teamwork

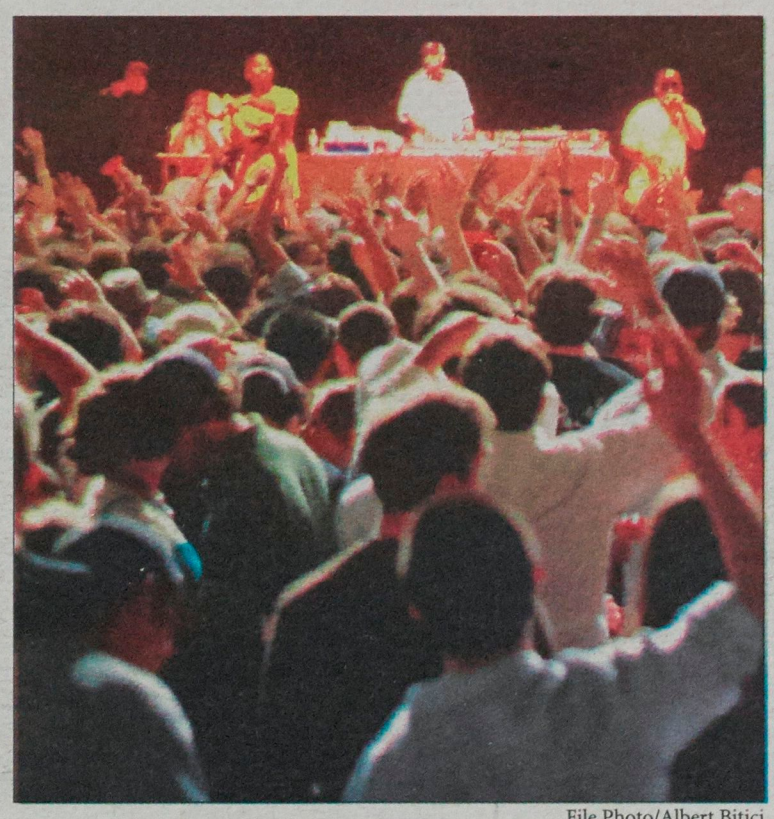
Collaboration between MCAB and ICC is designed to encourage student input for high-profile events, as well as increase funding for concerts and speaker visits.

"The Concert committee will receive more money to allow for three smaller concerts of Grace Potter size, as well as two larger ones," said Sullivan. "The current Grille committee of MCAB will likely expand to take responsibility for the Gamut Room to hold coffee houses and musical events there, as well as the Freeman space or Coltrane Lounge."

The joint MCAB-ICC committee could begin operating by the end of spring break, according to Adams. The committee will have the authority to act on requests for programming from the student body and to dispense funds with oversight from the Student Government Association (SGA) Finance Committee. According to Finance Committee Chair Amanda Goodwin '07.5, the restructuring effort will keep the student body better informed about campus events, and help streamline cash flow.

"When you look at the aggregate amount that's allocated to

See Programming, page 2



File Photo/Albert Bitici

Next fall, the Middlebury College Activities Board (MCAB) and the Inter-Commons Council (ICC) will unite to improve campus programming.

Fixing James Bond's fuzzy problem

By Tom Brant
News Editor

On Friday afternoon, as students were eagerly awaiting the Middlebury College Activities Board's (MCAB) screening of "Casino Royale," the latest movie in the James Bond series, projectionist Stewart Lane realized there was a problem: the distribution company had delivered the film reels to the College without leaders, one of the reels' crucial components.

After five hours of troubleshooting, Lane, who is a media services specialist at Library and Information Services (LIS), had fixed the reels, and the film was ready for showing in a nearly-full Dana Auditorium.

MCAB's Free Friday film series, of which "Casino Royale" was a part, has remained popular despite frequent technical problems that cause garbled sound or fuzzy picture quality, much to the chagrin of the audience.

But all those problems are about to change because of Lane's new position, according to Dean of LIS Barbara Doyle-Wilch. Lane is now in charge of film screenings full-time, which is the reason he was able to spend five hours fixing the film reels on Friday.

The establishment of Lane's new position is part of a larger shuffling of personnel started last spring at LIS, which manages everything from the preservation of fragile documents to the College's telephone system.

As part of the reshuffling, LIS is also searching for a new media and technology services manager, one who will be able to "push us into the next world in terms of media distribution," said Doyle-Wilch. The person is responsible, among other

See Lane, page 3

A Clearer Picture

Nearly 800 films were screened at the College last academic year. Media Services Specialist Stewart Lane is now in charge of showing all 35mm film screenings.

this week

safely baked
The thin mints just get a little thinner, local Girl Scout cookies lose the trans-fat, page 5

rules of the ride
Heed the advice of MiddRides drivers on how to be a better passenger, page 11

was it good for you?
Find out whether the senior 700 play "Sex Lives of Superheroes" hit the spot, page 16

middbriefs

ByTom Brant and Akshay Khanna

Bunt garners distinction for outstanding teaching

Associate Professor of Chemistry and Biochemistry Rick Bunt is the 2007 recipient of the Perkins Award for Excellence in Teaching, the College announced Friday.

The award is given each year to a faculty member in one of five departments: biology, chemistry, geology, physics, computer science or mathematics. The award consists of a plaque in Warner Hall and a grant for the support of further professional development.

"The Perkins family sends a great message with this award that Middlebury supports and values teaching," said Bunt. "It's obviously rewarding, and a bit humbling, to win such an award with so many outstanding teachers at Middlebury. I am honored and inspired."

Bunt joined the College's faculty in 1998, and holds degrees from Northwestern University and Stanford University. He was a post-doctoral fellow at Massachusetts Institute of Technology in the chemistry department from 1996 to 1998.

While the purpose of the award is to honor outstanding teaching performance, Bunt has also done extensive research. Currently he is focusing on chemical reactions at the molecular level.

Bunt has received other grants in recent years, including awards from the National Institutes of Health and the Vermont Genetics Network. He has taught has taught courses on general and organic chemistry, as well as two first year seminars entitled "The Modern Age of Science" and "Science Risk, Reward and Public Policy."

Adirondack bike shop to offer lessons in repair

One of the more noticeable sights to great incoming first-years for the last few years have been the fluorescent bikes around campus. Known to students simply as the Yellow Bikes, this program was designed by the school to encourage students to bike around campus. However, due to the loss, or the state of disrepair, of many of the bicycles, one is hard-pressed to find a conveniently located yellow bike on which to ride to class in the morning.

To reignite a "culture of cycling" amongst the student body, Spencer Paxson '07, Hubert d'Autremont '08 and Cameron Kowall '09 have started a campus Bike Center in the basement of Adirondack House. According to d'Autremont, "The new shop is really in response to the failures of the Yellow Bike program."

Bike repair classes will be taught from Adirondack House Tuesdays through Thursdays from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Mechanics at the bike shop will not fix bikes for students but will rather teach bikers how to fix problems themselves.

"Being able to work on your bike is a good skill to have," said Paxson, "especially when you get stuck out in the middle of nowhere."

One of the main features of the center will be that students who attend the classes and learn to fix bikes will be able to pick out a bike from the set that are clipped at the end of the year, repair it and then keep it in return for their help with fixing other bikes. Additionally, d'Autremont also stressed that he hopes that "this place can be for people to really make their own. It will be a place for the cycling club to meet and for us to host other events out — we already had a VACA gallery opening in J-term — such as movies, etc."

Corrections

The March 7 article, "Town meeting ends in call for impeachment" incorrectly reported the graduation year of Vermont Governor Jim Douglas. He graduated from Middlebury College in 1972.

The Campus regrets the error.

EAC proposes new academic deadlines

Continued from page 1

Some members of the faculty took issue with the scope of the proposed limitation on majors and minors.

"If the purpose here is to eliminate the possibility of a triple major, which is one of the rare occurrences, then it seems like a big flyswatter for a small fly," said Cut C. and Else Silberman Professor of Jewish Studies Robert Schine.

Faculty members also objected to a proposed change in the deadline for officially declaring majors and minors. Under the EAC's measure, all students would have to officially declare a major by the end of their fourth semester of study at the College, while all minors would have to be declared by the end of the sixth semester of study.

"Currently our regulations state that students must declare a major by the end of their third semester," said Schumer. "This does not replace that but forces students by their fourth semester that want to add a second major [to do so]. This doesn't allow students, most importantly, to declare a major or second major for the first time when they return to campus in their senior year."

The proposition drew opposition from professors mainly in departments that tend to attract students looking for a secondary major. Language, humanities and social science professors argued that the new guidelines would make it harder to recruit students later in their academic careers.

"Sociology and anthropology would be one of those departments which is frequently a second major," said David Stoll, associate professor of Anthropology. "One of the reason is that I think most students have to be here at least two semesters before they are even aware of what sociology and anthropology is. I have the impression that I've recruited some very good majors in their junior year, and even at the start of the senior year."

Faculty members in other departments that see a late influx of secondary majors echoed Stoll's sentiments.

"At least for some of the language [departments] it happens fairly often that people will take Russian, for example, and go abroad and change their minds about what they want to do in that junior year," said Professor of Russian and chair of the Russian Department Kevin Moss.

"I would not only add Religion's voice to the chorus of small departments worried about this early cut-off," said Assistant Professor of Religion James Davis, "but also it seems to me that the logic of the rationale does not line up with what the proposal actually says. If you're really worried about students backing into a major in their senior year, why cut it off at four semesters? Why not cut it off after six semesters."

Schumer explained the EAC's rationale for introducing the proposal as an attempt to increase communication between students and their advisors before students go abroad to study, while also helping departments plan

"For many departments, once [students] go abroad we really don't see them again until their senior year," said Schumer. "The end of their sophomore year is really the last chance we have to talk to them in person. A lot of declaring a major is the one-on-one discussion with your advisor and we're trying to put into place as much thoughtfulness on the students and from the departments on planning ahead as much as possible."

If adopted, the measure should not affect a large portion of the student body. Less than 15 percent of students currently are working towards a double major while there have only been a handful of triple majors over the past few years, according to Schumer.

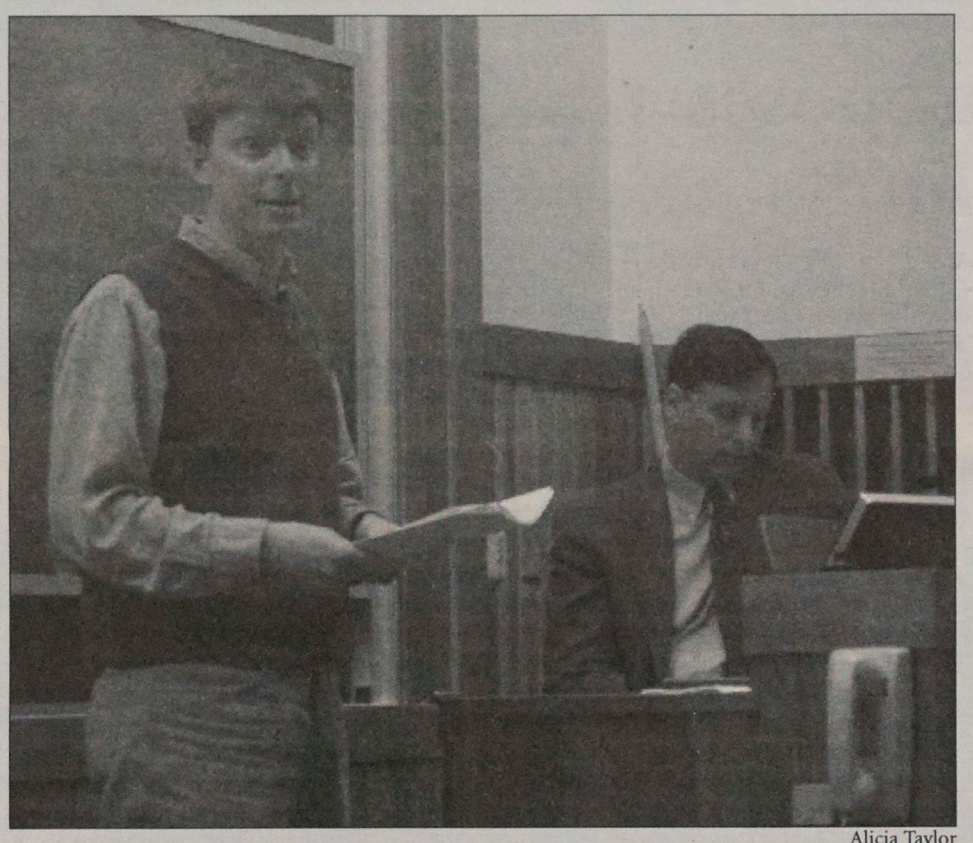
The EAC will hold an open meeting on March 14 for faculty with questions or suggestions regarding the proposals, which are scheduled for vote at the April faculty meeting.

The faculty also continued its discussion on terms of eligibility for faculty committees. In an amended proposal that was introduced at the meeting by the Faculty Council, faculty members would be allowed to take a hiatus after their term on a committee ended before they had the possibility of being elected to another committee position. Although the measure was schedule to be voted on at the meeting, discussion on the length of the hiatus, as well as the necessary length of time served on a committee before being eligible for hiatus, delayed vote on the measure, which was tabled until the April faculty meeting.

Associate Professor of German Roman Graf, a member of the EAC, updated the faculty on the committee's study into consolidating the College's distribution requirements, a recommendation made by the Strategic Plan. The study found that the requirements current meet student needs and do not need to be amended, although the committee is still exploring the option on a lab science requirement.

Professor of Geology and Associate Dean of Undergraduate Research Pat Manley also addressed the faculty about the Spring Student Symposium, which will feature presentations by 80 students in early April.

The faculty will convene again on April 10 at 4:15 p.m. for its second-to-last meeting of the academic year.



Alicia Taylor

Associate Professor of Geography Pete Nelson, a member of the Faculty Council, explains a new proposal to amend the terms of eligibility for faculty committees on March 12.

Programming to see joint oversight

Continued from page 1

concerts, that's a big number," said Goodwin in an interview last Saturday. "But because it's in these separated accounts that service different organizations like MCAB and WRMC, we thought that it would be more efficient to consolidate funding."

According to Goodwin, the basic framework under consideration will involve three separate pools of money overseen by MCAB-ICC. Each fund's contents will be available to the appropriate subcommittees responsible for programming speaker visits, concerts and large social events, and will be supported by money drawn from student organization budgets as well as a planned increase in the College's Student Activities Fee.

"At the end of the day, more money means more events," said ICC Chair Kylie Taylor '07.

The plan for programming reform on campus comes as the Finance Committee begins work on the budget for next fall. A recent upsurge in high-profile events has also contributed to the reevaluation initiative. A lecture delivered by Supreme Court Chief Justice John G. Roberts last October, a performance by alternative-rock group Guster scheduled for April and a commencement address by former U.S. President Bill Clinton planned for late May have caused groups such as MCAB, WRMC 91.1 FM and the ICC to collaborate as never before.

In previous years, programming was decentralized, with each student group appealing independently to the Finance Committee for funding. The lack of communication among various programming groups led to some weekends being heavily overbooked, but leaving virtually nothing planned for others, according to Goodwin.

The ability of this new structure is that there's more input from a cross-section of the campus.
—Doug Adams

"Last weekend, for instance, you had the energy symposium, you had a major speaker on campus and you had social house parties," said Goodwin. "This weekend there's nothing. Everyone mentioned that as a prime example of needing to space out events."

According to Goodwin, such scheduling overlaps will be amended with the changes put forth by the Finance Committee and the Social Life Task Force. Moreover, planners anticipate that the plan, which is designed to encourage student feedback and contributions, will bring variety to campus programming.

"Guster's great, but we don't want to bring Guster every week," said Adams. "It'd be interesting to look into doing rock. Or maybe country, blues or jazz again… I mean, there are lots of genres that we can hit. And the ability of this new structure is that there's more input from a cross-section of the campus."

Though the changes being considered by ICC and MCAB promise to be sweeping, Taylor said that the day-to-day operations of student groups will remain unaffected. Instead, collaboration between ICC and MCAB will mean better communication with the rest of the student body, leading to increased student participation in the programming process.

"Hopefully that will organically bring diversity to events," said Taylor. "It'll make programming more open on campus so that a regular student will feel okay about going up to anyone on the Board and saying, 'Hey, I want this speaker to come.'"

MCAB and ICC will continue to meet regularly in the coming weeks, hashing out details in preparation for a formal announcement of the new arrangement on March 18.

Lift certificate errors cause confusion

By Nick Alexander
Staff Writer

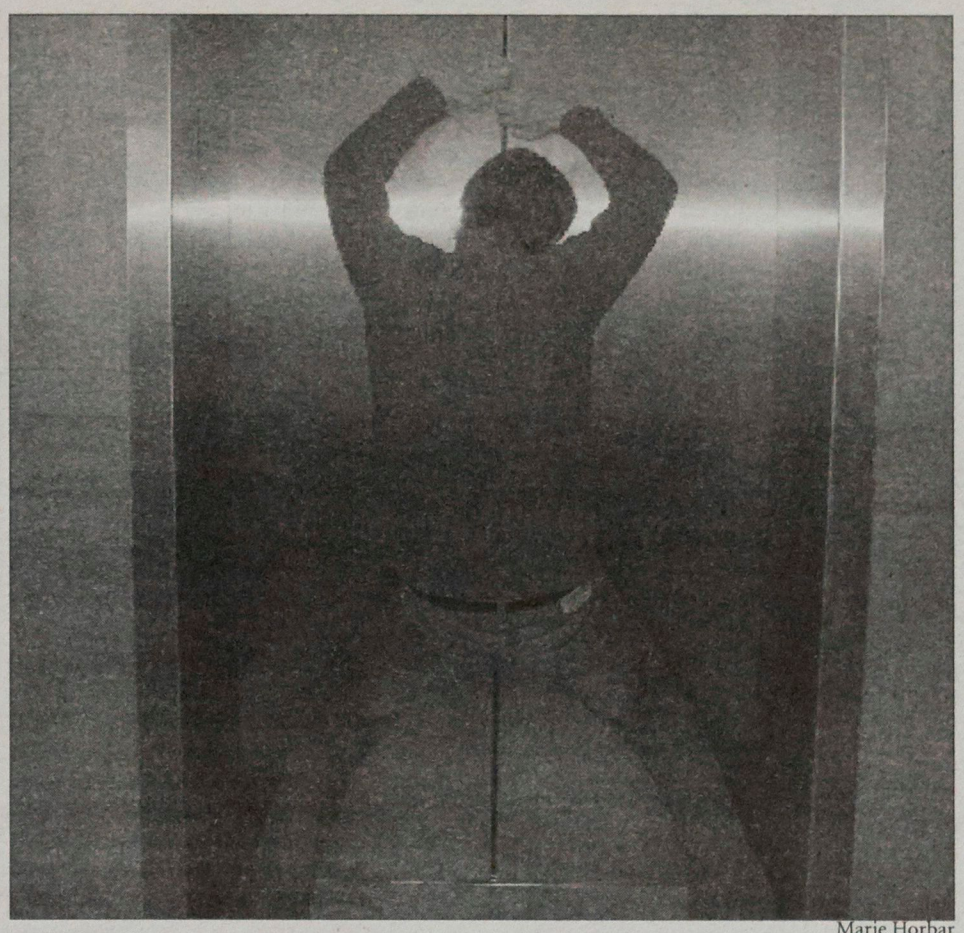
On multiple occasions over the past few months, a number of elevators throughout the College have malfunctioned, trapping unsuspecting students within. In mid-November, students found themselves imprisoned several times in the cable elevators of McCardell Bicentennial Hall when both elevator controllers experienced intermittent failures. In January, Eri Nosaka '08 was held captive for 25 minutes when Hepburn's elevator obstinately refused to open its metal jaws.

The unusual frequency of such unfortunate occurrences in recent months has sparked questions concerning the regularity of elevator maintenance on campus. These questions became more serious when it was discovered that several of the College's 47 elevators lack up-to-date inspection certificates.

But George McPhail, engineering and energy manager at the College, said that Vermont inspection crews had simply written the wrong date on many of the certificates. According to McPhail, the dates printed on the certificates indicate when the elevators were last inspected, not when the certificates will expire. McPhail said that the dates will be corrected during the next annual inspection.

McPhail also said the College is doing everything in its power to regularly inspect and maintain the quality of its elevators. Long before legislation was passed in the state of Vermont requiring the annual inspection of all elevators by a third party, the College enlisted the services of the Bay State Elevator Company, based in Agawam, Mass.

McPhail stressed the reliability of the Bay State Elevator Company, explaining that elevator inspection is a well-regulated industry.



Marie Horbar

Despite several students getting stuck in elevators across campus, Engineering and Energy Manager George McPhail said the malfunctions were unrelated to maintenance inspections.

"The mechanics of all elevator inspection companies belong to one union that guarantees the same quality of service from all its workers," he said.

Regarding elevator maintenance procedure, McPhail said that mechanics from Bay State conduct quarterly elevator inspections in all College dormitories. Other elevators, such as those in Bicentennial Hall, are subject to monthly inspections. In addition, the College spends approximately $100 per elevator per year to satisfy the Vermont state law calling for annual inspections by a third party.

Lane takes control of screenings

Continued from page 1

things, for film screenings.

"We want someone who really knows where the industry is going," she said, referring to the rapidly changing field of media technology.

Until the College can find such a person, screenings will continue to be run by Lane. These days, the students who previously ran the 35-millimeter projectors for evening film screenings by themselves now watch and learn from him.

"I think that we will see a huge difference in the quality of the screenings [with Lane in charge]", said Doyle-Wilch. "A lot of places have moved away from 35-millimeter film because it's so difficult to operate, but we're going to try to make our screenings better."

Doyle-Wilch stressed the importance of film screenings as part of the College's media offerings, noting that there were almost 800 film screenings last year. By asking Lane, who is an experienced projectionist, to show the films, problems should be less frequent, she said. Lane agreed with Doyle-Wilch's assessment.

"At the very least, I think it's good to have someone with experience," he said.

Lane started working for the College in 1997 as a projectionist, before switching over to coordinate classroom multimedia, such as the LCD projectors that professors use. In the fall, Doyle-Wilch asked him to return to 35-millimeter projection in order to improve the quality of the screenings.

"Last fall, the screenings weren't exactly what I would call perfect," said Lane. "They may never be perfect, but that's what we're striving for." He explained that 35-millimeter film projection is inherently complicated, and usually requires a professional to operate.

"It's an art and a science, and it takes a lot of practice," Lane said.

Commercial theaters typically use automated projectors that do not require reels to be switched in the middle of a movie. But Dana Auditorium has an older double-reel system with two projectors, which requires the projectionist to manually change reels during the film. The changes have to be extremely accurate, and if they are off by as much as a few seconds, the picture and sound can be distorted or even disappear, soliciting groans from the audience.

Last fall's screening of the French film "Caché" featured both of these problems, said Hannah Parker '10.

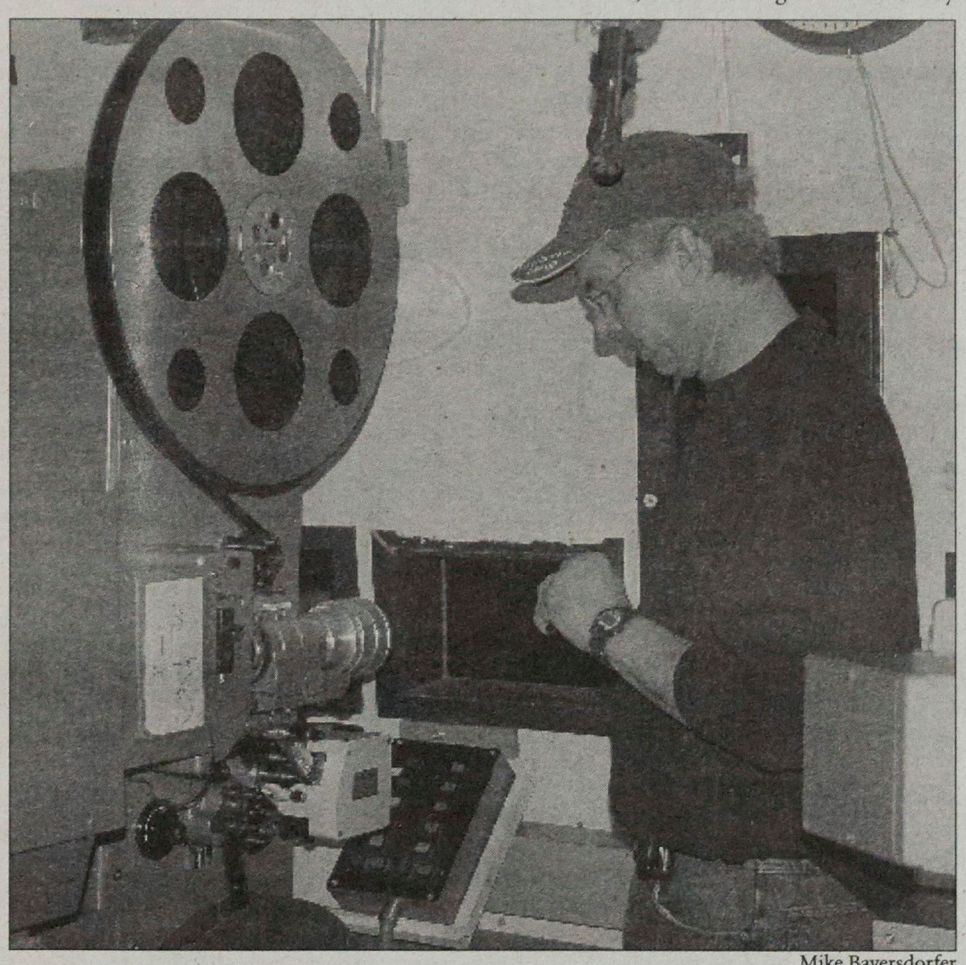
"The top of the film was cut off the screen, and it was really out of focus," she said. Eventually, a student stepped out of the projection room and told the audience that the film would be restarted from the beginning.

Occurrences like these have been less frequent under Lane's guidance. The focus problems were fixed after he discovered that one of the projectors' telephoto lenses had been incorrectly rotated.

The improvements in screening quality have not gone unnoticed by the student body. Hannah Epelbaum '09 saw "Little Miss Sunshine" at Dana recently, and said that there were no problems with the picture quality, though at times the sound was not quite loud enough.

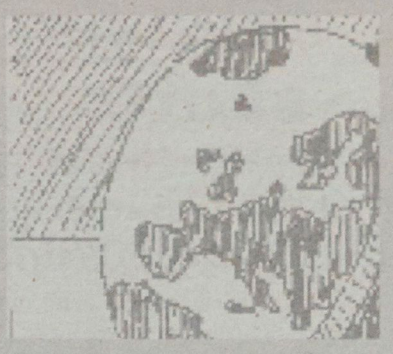
With a new media tech manager and Lane as LIS's secret weapon for 35-millimeter film screenings, prospects are looking up for students who want to enjoy their free Friday night films without interruption from out-of-focus picture or lousy sound quality.

On the whole, the screening of "Casino Royale" went well. But even professionals like Lane occasionally make botched reel changes, and a groan went up from the audience when the screen momentarily went blank. Luckily, Lane was able to recover, and the picture came back after a few seconds, just in time for James Bond to kill someone else.



Mike Bayersdorfer

Stewart Lane prepares one of two 35mm film projectors for a screening in Dana Auditorium.



overseas briefing

Dancing the meaning into numéro cinq

By Kristen Ward

PARIS — When I first arrived in the French third grade classroom where I volunteer, the students immediately jumped out of their seats to say "*Bonjour*." "Say it in English," the teacher insisted, and there came a chorus of "*Allo*." I have volunteered in numerous American elementary schools, and have never received such a welcome. My first interaction with the French school gave me an overwhelmingly positive impression of the French education system. The classroom was a model of order, with posters on verb tenses and English vocabulary lining the walls. A dictionary sits on every student's desk and their *trousse*, or pencil case, sits beside it. Pencil cases are fundamental for French students; even at the university I've rarely seen a student without one.

When it comes time for the teacher to start the lesson, it becomes apparent why a case filled with colored pens and pencils, whiteout pens and rulers are necessary. Every third-grader used these tools to underline and highlight even the simplest thing. Watching the kids write their names and the date showed me where the French students learn their meticulous note-taking skills. During lectures the French students scribble furiously, essentially transcribing the professors' words. At any given moment they are using at least three different colored pens, plus a highlighter, a ruler and a whiteout pen that gets used immediately to avoid scribbling out mistakes. Unfortunately, I have trouble reading any French student's notes, because French handwriting is so different. Prior to coming here, I naïvely assumed that since we used the same alphabet, French and American handwriting would be the same. Unfortunately, many hours of trying to decipher what my French professors wrote on the board has taught me otherwise. One day in my third grade classroom, a student wrote "Monday" on the board, and the teacher made him rewrite it in "American handwriting."

Handwriting differences only begin to get at the cultural differences we have come across during English lessons in Mme. Ratarin's classroom. Yesterday she found a rhyme on the Internet intending to teach children numbers. Although I had never heard the rhyme before, I recognized the expressions such as "six, pick up sticks" from classic children's rhymes. However, when it came time to explain certain words, my language skills, both English and French, failed me. I couldn't figure out how to define "jive," and wound up dancing awkwardly in front of the class. The students watched and giggled and asked me if the word meant "to dance." With no better way to explain it, I agreed. I successfully translated "number seven, go to heaven," but could not explain why such a silly-sounding phrase was part of a rhyme that the students were supposed to act out. The idiom's meaning got lost in translation.

Despite the cultural and linguistic differences between American and French schools, many of their qualities are similar. In the French classes, like the American ones, there is always a troublemaker and students who doodle instead of taking notes. The language is a constant barrier for me in the French school, but *Ecole Las Cases* provides a sense of familiarity that I seek and truly appreciate while here in Paris.

college shorts

by Tom Brant and Brian Fung

Traditionalist students: 'Keep Wesleyan Weird'

To some students at Wesleyan University, the traditionally non-traditional school is losing the things that make it unique, the *Hartford Courant* reported last week.

Holly Wood, a junior at Wesleyan and founder of a popular campus blog, said that a series of changes made by the administration are changing the university for the worse.

"Tiny rules keep being changed to make us more in line with other institutions and with every new rule, a little bit of old Wesleyan is lost," Wood wrote on her blog, "Wesleying."

Changes include a new crackdown on students who keep pets in their dorm rooms, the removal of colorful graffiti in the basement of one of the dorms and aggressive fire code inspectors that impose hefty fines.

Wood and other students like sophomore Colin McMichael, who wrote a letter of protest to President Doug Bennet, claim that the administration is more interested in keeping up with more buttoned-down NESCAC colleges than preserving its quirky identity.

"Without WesCulture, we are just another New England school," wrote McMichael.

—The Hartford Courant

Howard faculty wants president's resignation

Howard University's faculty senate has called for the resignation of the institution's president, H. Patrick Swygert, after a recent National Science Foundation report was released criticizing the university's use of grant money.

According to the *Associated Press*, Chairman of the Faculty Senate Theodore Bremner accused Swygert of "incompetence and dysfunction at the highest level" in a letter to the Board of Trustees last week. In addition, Bremner complained that Swygert has failed to insulate the institution's academic budgets from financial issues at the university hospital. Howard's academic programs suffer from second-rate equipment and facilities, according to Bremner's letter, which was obtained by *The Washington Post*.

Swygert has announced that despite having seen the letter of protest, he does not intend to step down.

"It clearly demonstrates how democratic and how open the university is," Swygert told the *Associated Press*, "and how free the faculty is to express opinions."

—The Associated Press

Wisconsin women still at disadvantage vs. men

Wisconsin women continue to suffer from gender and racial inequity when it comes to their involvement in the workforce, reports the University of Wisconsin's *Badger Herald*.

A study conducted by the university in conjunction with the Wisconsin Women's Council found that though the median wage for women in the state has jumped 22 percent over the last 28 years to $12.62 per hour, that number still lags behind men's median wage by 25 percent.

In addition, according to the study's report, Caucasian women with four-year college degrees outnumber similarly-educated women of Latino, African-American and Native American descent two-to-one.

"Wisconsin women, particularly women of color, continue to face substantial economic barriers to equality," said Christine Lidbury, executive director of the Women's Council.

—The Badger Herald

College to require student evacuation plans

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

ministrators are bracing themselves for the prospect that it could all happen again. But this time, with a global Middlebury community and a larger student population, the response in planning would abandon the quarantine approach. Instead, students would be given 24 hours to leave campus, dorms would be locked, and the College would shut down indefinitely.

Planning for a pandemic

It is late afternoon on a Friday and six members of the Emergency Planning Committee are gathered around a conference table in Old Chapel discussing the next pandemic. The administrators — including representatives from the academic program, Library and Information Services, College Communications and the President's staff — speak not in terms of "if," but "when."

"We have a pandemic every 30 to 50 years," says Director of the Health Center Dr. Mark Peluso. "This is overdue."

The committee is battling two dangerous misconceptions: that healthy 20-year-olds are less likely to suffer from an influenza outbreak, and that the best place to be with a global epidemic would be isolated Middlebury College.

The irony is that the 1918 pandemic flu *most* affected 20-40-year-olds with strong immune systems. The disease caused the body's immune system to overreact, leading to acute respiratory distress syndrome — victims literally drowned inside their own bodies as their lungs filled with fluid. Because the disease preyed on the immune system, those with stronger immune systems suffered more aggressive symptoms.

When the last pandemic flu struck, the world was in the midst of World War I and many 20-year-olds suffered the disease in trenches and other military realms.

"These men start with what appears to be an ordinary attack of LaGrippe or Influenza, and when brought to the hospital they very rapidly develop the most vicious type of pneumonia that has ever been seen," said a World War I physician quoted in John Barry's *The Great Influenza*. "Two hours after admission they have Mahogany spots over the cheek bones, and a few hours later you can begin to see the cyanosis extending from their ears and spreading all over the face, until it is hard to distinguish the colored men from the white."

Now college administrators across the country worry that students packed in dorm rooms and dining halls could be a modern corollary to the young soldiers who suffered the 1918 pandemic in the barracks of World War I.

"Back then it wasn't so much the colleges as the military barracks," says Peluso. "Today we are the military barracks of 1918."

The other counterintuitive is that, however isolated, Middlebury could be one of the worst places to be in the event of a pandemic flu.

"The Middlebury community is an amazingly global community," says Secretary of the College John Emerson. "With all the people that study abroad, all the people that have contact with the summer Bread Loaf programs on four different campuses, our schools abroad and our international students traveling back and forth across the world, we are potentially at risk despite being in rural, isolated Addison County."

Compounding the risks of that global network are intense, regular interactions between members of the community on a regular basis.

"We all live together, we all eat together, we all go to classes together," says Peluso.

"The school population today is significantly greater than it was in 1918, causing greater and closer interactions between people and making it harder to isolate people and to find enough spaces to house any and all who might fall ill," says Susan Miranowski '07, a pre-med student working with Peluso and the Committee.

The 1918 pandemic flu went away as mysteriously and suddenly as it had arrived, leading health officials today to conclude that the best national strategy for responding to a pandemic outbreak would be to slow its spread while scientists attempted to find a vaccine and hoped it died off on its own.

But slowing its spread requires scattering dense populations, like communities of college students, before infection can occur.

Evacuating a campus

"The key concept is social distancing," explains President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz in an e-mail. "Dorms, large dining halls, and classrooms do not promote this concept, and for this reason, we decided that closure would be the safest course of action."

Whereas the College in 1918 quarantined students and prohibited them from leaving the campus, the College in 2007 would implement an enforced evacuation if it faced a pandemic flu. The campus community would have 24 hours to evacuate, and the Committee suggested dorms would be padlocked to secure valuables and prevent students from returning.

"It's the opposite of what they did in 1918 in the sense that everyone would leave campus," says Miranowski. "But it makes sense under the changed circumstances."

Peluso expects the pandemic would enter the United States through a major port such as Los Angeles or New York, giving the College a limited amount of time to select a course of action, warn the community and implement an evacuation if necessary.

The most recent response protocols drafted for the Committee are based on a staged, six-level plan. At low risk levels where a pandemic flu was still abroad or only apparent in isolated cases within the United States, the College would remain open, limiting travel to affected areas and possibly postponing the arrival of visitors from those areas. As the Director of the Health Center, Peluso would monitor the pandemic situation and, if necessary, advise the campus of a possible closure.

But if the situation became more severe, with clusters of human-to-human transmission in the United States or even cases or pandemic in the immediate area, the College would cancel events and evacuate the campus. And the closure, according to the Committee, would not be a matter of days or even weeks, but more likely months or semesters.

"It's a hard thing to imagine actually happening," says Miranowski. "I've sort of come around to the feeling that this is the best and really only option."

The evacuation would be based on students implementing their own personal preparedness plans. These plans, which students will soon be required to have, include two possible locations they could get to and a strategy for how they would get there. Next week the College will notify students that in order to register for spring classes in November, they will be expected to enter two evacuation plans into BannerWeb.

"Given the student body, it's probably the only way to get a response from everyone," says Miranowski about blocking course registration for students without plans. "It's a guarantee that everyone will have to be aware and involved."

The two plans students devise must be based on geographically distinct locations in case one is at the center of a pandemic flu or a student is unable to find transportation to a specific area. Parents will receive copies of the plans their student has entered, but the College will not check the validity of any personal preparedness plan.

"It is not a comfortable position for a college to be in," says Peluso, acknowledging that the College would essentially be leaving students on their own. "But we've looked at lots of other ways to do it and this is the best way. Students know what's best for them and they are in the best position to make their own plans."

Ultimately, the committee plans to work with Geography professors to design GIS systems that would allow them to identify major travel patterns and help students find rides. But the technical complications of such a system make it a long-term goal.

For now, the administrators hope they can inspire students to prepare, without raising unnecessary concern.

"It's a thin line to walk," says Emerson. "We don't want to alarm people and be alarmist. On the other hand we want people to be informed and smart and take this seriously."

"We may not have a pandemic for years," says Peluso, "but we'll have a plan and students will have plans."

The reality of the situation

Given the isolated nature of the College, the Committee is aware that telling students to flee the campus sounds counterintuitive. And given the length of time since the last pandemic, the Committee is also aware that the scenario they are planning for seems unlikely.

But they are convinced that a pandemic flu scenario is not so fantastic as it sounds.

"The public health officials told us to pay attention to this and plan for it," says Peluso, referring to a presentation he attended by U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services Michael Leavitt. "This is an illness that affects young people who live in groups, so we are taking time away from other things to plan for it."

Middlebury was among the first schools to adopt an evacuation-based response plan for a pandemic flu. According to Peluso, schools like Dartmouth that have teaching hospitals, have more medical staff and resources to rely on before an evacuation would be imperative. Other schools with smaller endowments have more concerns to face from the financial implications of a long-term shutdown.

"Initially our strategy could have been viewed as extreme," says Liebowitz, "but now more schools are recognizing that evacuation would be the best course of action."

Coming off of the College's recent closure several weeks ago due to a blizzard, the planning is also addressing identified weaknesses in current emergency response systems.

"I'm not sure that we did that all that well," acknowledges Emerson about how the decision to shutdown the campus was reached on Feb. 14. "We weren't organized initially to do it in a way that was routine. There almost needs to be a recipe for what you do and how you do it, rather than having to sort that out on the fly through e-mail and telephone conversations.

Along with the pandemic flu scenario, the Committee now oversees other response plans for a wide array of emergency scenarios.

"What we're trying to do right now is figure out what questions need to be asked," says Emerson. "We're also planning for an ice storm, or a flood or a catastrophic failure of the communications system. But the one that's getting the most attention and pressure right now is definitely the pandemic flu."

public safety log

March 3 - March 12, 2007

DATE	TIME	INCIDENT	CATEGORY	LOCATION	DISPOSITION
3/8/2007	Unknown	Theft	Laundry Bag	Coffrin	Referred to Commons Dean
3/9/2007	2:00 p.m.	Collision	Hit and Run	K Lot	Open
3/10/2007	12:00 a.m.	Theft	Liquor, Lights, Pillow	82 Adirondack View	No Suspects
3/10/2007	3:05 a.m.	Vandalism	Door and Windows	Le Chateau	Referred to Commons Dean
3/11/2007	4:15 a.m.	Disturbance	Student noise complaint	Hadley	Referred to Commons Dean
3/11/2007	4:15 a.m.	Vandalism	Door	McCullough	No Suspects

The Department of Public Safety reported giving three alcohol citations between March 3 and March 12.

girls gone wild

girl scouts eliminate trans-fats from cookies

by Kelly Janis, Local News Editor

The Girl Scouts' Thin Mints, Peanut Butter Patties and Caramel deLites, which cause mouths to water across the state of Vermont and the nation at large, are arriving soon at a doorstep near you. But this year, something is missing.

The Girl Scouts program has evolved continually throughout the course of its nearly 95 year existence to situate itself at the forefront of contemporary trends. Now, the Scouts' latest transformation is aimed at the waistlines of its greatest enthusiasts.

"All Girl Scout cookies are now 'zero trans fat per serving' with the same great taste that has made them one of America's favorite treats over the years," announced Girl Scouts of the USA CEO Kathy Cloninger in a press release. "This enhancement reflects our deep commitment to girls and the millions of Americans who support the Girl Scout Cookie Program as America's leading business and economic literacy program for girls."

Girl Scout Council of Vermont Field Director Mary Alice Waterman has observed marked benefits to the elimination of trans fat. "The recipe changes have given our troops the opportunity to discuss the importance of eating right, maintaining a well-balanced diet and getting plenty of exercise," Waterman said. "So far, the feedback to the change in our cookies has been positive. In fact very few people have noticed a difference in the taste of our cookies."

Lisa Quenneville of Salisbury leads a troop of second and third graders enrolled in the Brownies program, a division of the Girl Scouts which caters to six and seven year olds.

"I have had a huge response to the elimination of the trans fats," Quenneville said. "Just about everyone that we sold to mentioned seeing on TV or in the paper that the Girl Scouts had taken [the fats] out."

Trans fat is a specific type of saturated fat which occurs naturally in meat and dairy products, as well as artificially in the partial hydrogenation of plant oils, a process utilized regularly in commercial food production. It is typically regarded as both an unnecessary and detrimental constituent of an individual's diet, and is widely believed to increase the risk of coronary heart disease. As a result, trans fats have fallen under heavy fire from those who wish to see them driven out of everything from Oreos to meals at Walt Disney theme parks.

In the case of the Girl Scouts, the move away from trans fats was implemented in a gradual fashion.

"While some 'zero trans fat per serving' varieties of Girl Scout cookies were available in 2005 and 2006," Cloninger explained, "this year all varieties will contain less than 0.5 grams trans fat per serving."

Years of forethought and effort underlie the switch. "Girl Scouting has cared about this issue personally as well as professionally and we have worked diligently with our bakers over the past several years to address the issue of trans fats," Cloninger said.

The Girl Scouts have a demonstrated reputation for taking the initiative in matters concerning trans fats.

In 2003, The United States Department of Health & Human Services announced that, by Jan. 1, 2006, food labels would be required to list the quantity of unhealthy trans fatty acids present in a given item.

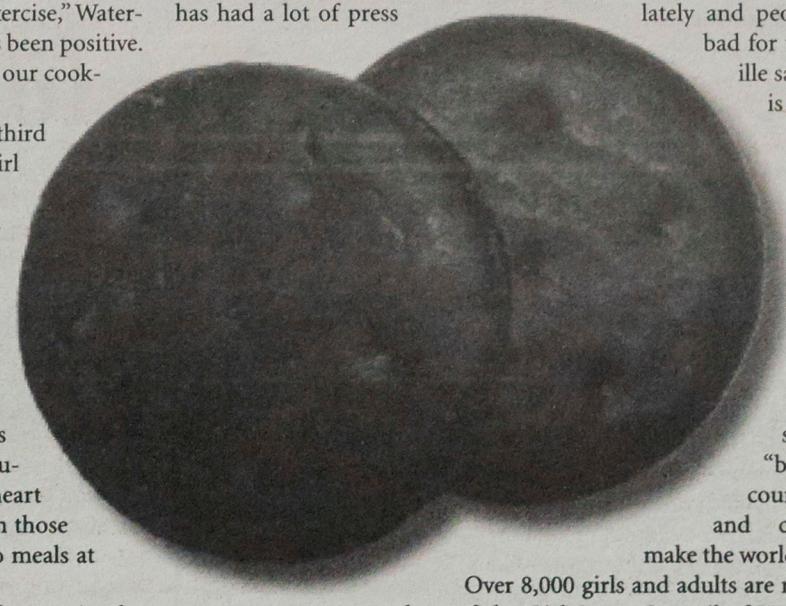
"We are empowering Americans to make healthier choices about the foods they eat," Health & Human Services Secretary Tommy G. Thompson said in a statement released at the time. "By putting trans fat information on food labels, we are making it possible for consumers to make better educated choices to lower their intake of these unhealthy fats and cholesterol. It's just one more way we're helping consumers lead healthier lives."

The Girl Scouts were on the cutting edge of this requirement.

"We began listing the amount of trans fats one full year before FDA requirements went into effect," said Cloninger.

Quenneville's buyers have thus far responded with overwhelmingly positive attitudes toward the nutritional enhancement. "Everyone had good things to say and was very excited about this change," she said.

Quenneville attributes this enthusiasm to the public awareness cultivated by the increased media attention granted to the issue. "Trans fat has had a lot of press lately and people know it is bad for you," Quenneville said. "I think this is a positive step that can be enjoyed by all."



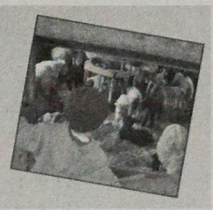
Girl Scouts is a 3.7 million member organization which, according to its mission statement, "builds girls of courage, confidence and character, who make the world a better place."

Over 8,000 girls and adults are registered members of the Girl Scout Council of Vermont. Of these members, 457 hail from Addison County, where they participate in special outreach programs, attend day camp, train in skills ranging from CPR to outdoor adventures and participate in the beloved cookie sales for which Girl Scouts is renowned.

Unfortunately, those who view the change as a license to indulge are urged to reign in their ravenous appetites.

"As much as we all love Girl Scout cookies, we still recommend that any type of dessert or snack be eaten in moderation," Cloninger said, "whether it's an annual treat like Halloween and Easter candies or even popcorn at the movies."

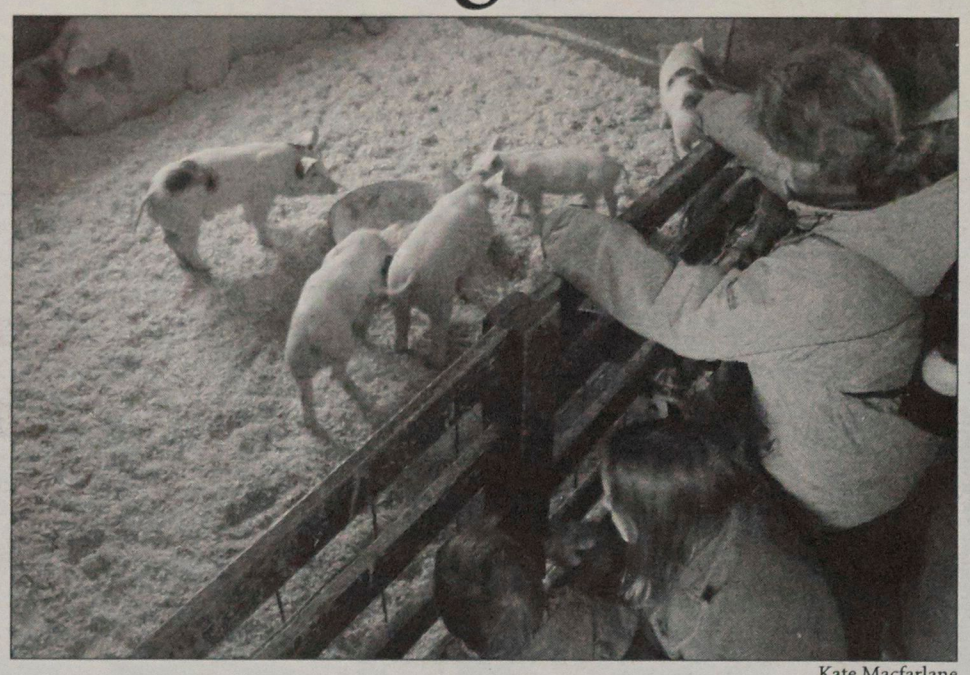
Annual Open Barn
lambs, goats and llamas...oh my!, page 6



Town meeting part two
there's more going on in Midd than meets the eye, page 7

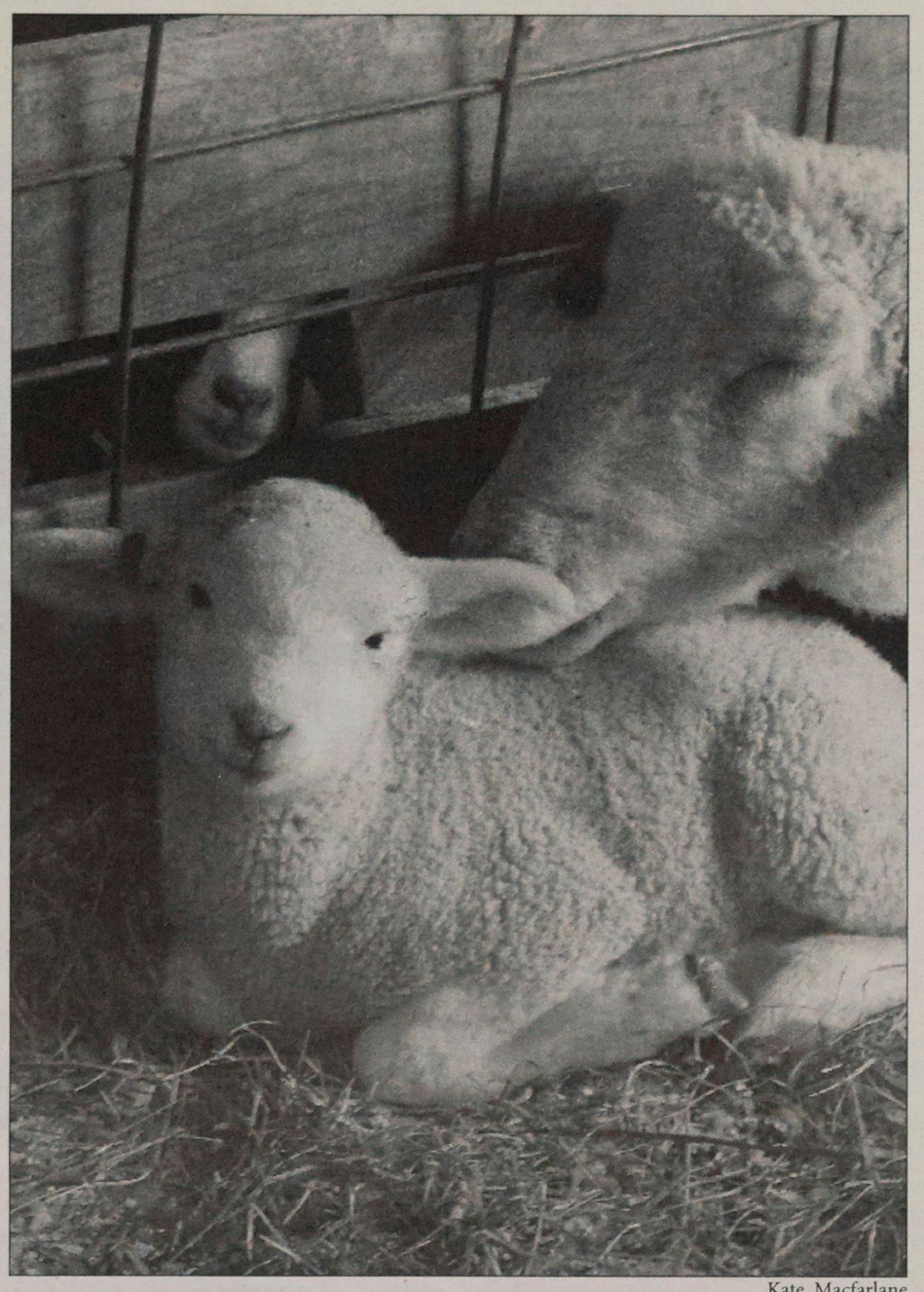
Best pancake accessory
maple syrup made in Vermont, page 6

No kidding, over 400 newborns at local barn



Kate Macfarlane

Local residents both young and small scrambled to the Duclos/Thompson Farm on Sunday.



Kate Macfarlane

Over 400 newborn sheep, goats and piglets fill the barn at the Duclos and Thompson Farm located off Route 23 on Sheep Farm Road, where the annual Open Barn event took place.

By Tamara Hilmes
Local News Editor

Inside the big red barn just two miles from campus on Sheep Farm Road, oodles of baby pigs, sheep and goats fill the stalls that line the interior of the building. Upon first walking in, despite the slightly unpleasant smell, it is hard not to be delighted by the wooly white lambs nuzzling into their mothers' sides and napping in the straw.

The snow is melting, birds are singing and new life is springing up throughout the Vermont countryside. Spring is here and to celebrate its arrival, the Duclos and Thompson Farm, located on Route 23 in Weybridge, is holding an Open Barn event, inviting members of the community to stop by and welcome the 400 newborn lambs and kids as well as the new season. This tradition began one fine spring 24 years ago.

"The Open Barn is a sign of spring," says Weybridge resident Jodi Collins. "It is usually held at the end of March, and people just like to come and enjoy the nice weather and see the babies because they are just so cute."

The little lambs might look peaceful, but as farm owner Tommy Duclos points out, life isn't always so easy for the newborn animals.

"We're pretty lucky in this barn because we only lose about four percent of our babies," says Duclos. "The average loss is usually 10 percent or above."

According to Duclos, lambs are often lost when their mothers decide to neglect them.

"When two lambs are born, the mother will often pick out the hardier one, the bigger lamb, and disown the other."

Now, however, the newborn animals are at no loss for attention. Adults and children alike crowd around the pens to ooh and ahh at the tiny goats, pigs and sheep. Although the baby lambs were by far the most popular attraction, Emma, a large white dog lying among the sheep in one of the larger pens, also receives her fair share of attention. One afternoon she caused a stir when a visitor to the barn attempted to take her picture.

"Someone reached in with their camera to take a picture and Emma started barking and became quite upset," says Collins. "But this was in the expectant mothers pen, so you can see why she would be more protective and more irritable."

Two large brown llamas, Jazzman and Duke, are another big barn attraction.

Apart from gazing at the incredibly adorable animals, visitors to the farm also participate in activities such as guessing the weight of the large, pink pig at the entrance to the barn, and sampling the cheese and sausage that is produced by Duclos and Thompson.

Despite the less-than-pleasant barnyard smell, people from the Middlebury and Weybridge areas find it hard to resist celebrating the arrival of spring with the newborn animals.

"There were a lot of people visiting today," says Collins. "There were points when you could barely even walk through the barn."

Warm weather makes for sticky business

By Ceara Danaher
Staff Writer

When asked about the best sugaring winter he's ever seen, Steve Fisher is quick to reply: 1980, hands down. That year, Fisher recalls, he boiled down enough sap to make 500 gallons of maple syrup. He accomplished that feat by using about 1,500 taps, one per tree. Now, a couple of decades later, the native Vermonter has decreased the number of taps he puts out and produces—on average, 150 to 200 gallons of syrup each year.

Does he think the warmer winters Vermont has experienced in recent years have had an effect on syrup production?

"They certainly have," Fisher replies without hesitation.

Fellow sugarmaker and Professor of English John Elder echoes Fisher's sentiments. On sabbatical this year, Elder is studying food, conservation and climate change. He is writing "with a special emphasis on sugaring in Vermont."

"Sugaring off"—as the pros call it—is often a family act. The Williams Farm of Middlebury, which sells its goods on Route 30, is a family-run business that began in 1976. Williams runs a slightly larger production than Fisher, who works as a stonemason full-time and calls syrup-making "mostly hobby, part business." However, the affable 50 year-old has been tapping maple trees since childhood and his family has been involved in the practice for nearly a century now. The sugar house that he operates out of was built during the late 1800s. His grandfather purchased it in 1945. It is located in nearby Grafton, where he lives with his wife Gail Ann.

Fisher sells his products under the label "Wright Orchard Sugar House," and describes his setup as a "mid-size" production. He explains that "a lot of backyard makers put in 10 to 30 taps," while "some of the bigger outfits have 10,000 or more," or even up to 50,000. In the past few years, he has put out 600 to 800, while the Williams family has a few thousand taps.

In the case of quantities of syrup that number in the hundreds of gallons and are obtained through thousands of taps, to create a single gallon of maple syrup, it is necessary to boil down approximately 40 gallons of sap. Fisher points out that "generally, if you can get a quart of syrup for ever tap you have, you've done good." In 1980, he and his family far exceeded that. Their remarkable outcome that winter prompted a televised tour of his sugar house on Good Morning America with Julia Child.

The most ideal conditions for tapping trees depend on the levels of frost, snowfall, temperature and buds on the maple trees, which means that warmer winters have serious consequences for syrup producers. The goal, Fisher said, is to have deep frost coupled with temperatures around 40 degrees Fahrenheit during the day and 20 degrees Fahrenheit at night. It is imperative that the trees do not bud during sugaring—once they begin to grow buds, the sap starts running freely and can freeze by nightfall. Winters with abnormally warm temperatures can cause this sort of unfavorable early budding. Deep frost is desirable in its ability to prevent this occurrence.

> We just take it as it comes. Mother Nature determines what we do.
> —Lucille Williams

Typically, Elder says, these conditions occur "in March and April, with many sugarmakers in Vermont traditionally tapping the day after Town Meeting." However, Elder points out that "the transitions from winter to spring become even more erratic and unpredictable than usual" as a result of global warming.

The dilemma of early budding, Elder said, involves the germination of maple seeds, which occurs at 34 degrees Fahrenheit. In an early thaw, these seeds can sprout. They will subsequently freeze and die when cold temperatures return, "thus endangering the regeneration of the forest," Elder said.

Again in 1980, "the best year we ever made syrup," Fisher described the winter as having been very cold, totally lacking snow and having frost that extended four feet into the ground. This created a prolonged season where "the sap ran so pure and so fast, we made syrup that looked like water."

Besides early budding, another result of unnaturally warm winter weather is the possibility of disease entering the maple trees. Insects that are generally killed off by cold temperatures may survive. Some, like pear thrips, can eat away at a tree's buds, thereby affecting its foliage. Others can enter the tree through the holes left by the syrup taps. Fisher said that he has already noticed changes in the trees. He warned, "I think a lot of diseases would come into play the warmer it gets."

Lucille Williams of the Williams Farm said she was most concerned with the present. Fisher offered hopeful predictions for this sugaring season, noting February's frigid temperatures and their resulting frost. When asked about her expectations, Williams cautioned, "You can't tell until the season's over."

Williams asserted that her family's previous year of sugaring off "wasn't a great year. It was an average year." When asked about the future of her livelihood, she, however, responded with deference, "We just take it as it comes. Mother Nature determines what we do."

It is with an uncertainty about the future of his craft that Fisher spoke of the challenges which face today's maple syrup industry. "I read some articles saying that in 50 years, the maple trees will be gone," he said. "It's kind of a sad thing to think. I see it already."

Elder spoke with equal anxiety. "Some experts estimate that unless we reverse the current climate trends, maples could largely die out in Vermont by 2050," she said. "As a person for whom sugaring is an important way to be rooted in this region, I find such a prospect devastating."

However, Elder was adamant about the potential for change.

"Global climate change will not be reversed," said Elder. "But it can be significantly mitigated with concerted action on a national and international scale. We have inspiring leadership in our community from people like Bill McKibben, John Isham and members of the Sunday Night Group. It's time for sugarmakers, Middlebury students and others who love this landscape to be creative and determined activists, too."

Town reexamines a chaotic meeting's questions

By Andrea Glaessner
Local News Editor

In the wake of a controversial finale to last week's Middlebury Town Meeting, which saw passage of non-binding resolutions calling for the withdrawal of troops from Iraq and the impeachment of President Bush, the Middlebury Select Board started its first bimonthly meeting Monday by trying to understand what had gone wrong. The specific issue at hand: how to handle petitions for new agenda items on Town Meeting warnings.

Middlebury residents Anne Hoover, Professor of Mathematics Mike Olinick and his wife Judy and Middlebury town clerk Anne Webster, all of who participated in the debate over the Iraq war resolution, joined the Select Board members.

The disagreement at the center of the Town Meeting stemmed from a petition by Hoover, a local peace activist behind the Iraq War Vigil held in Middlebury's Triangle Park each Saturday. In January 2003, she marched in a Washington D.C. protest against the war and says the experience "made a fantastic impression on [her]."

After protesting in D.C., Hoover was convinced that Middlebury citizens would benefit from a public forum where they could express themselves and debate national issues that affect a multitude of citizens, like the Iraq War.

"My feeling is that most citizens feel they can't express themselves," says Hoover. "What can we do? We can moan and groan and jump up and down but we can't change things."

To Hoover and other Vermonters across the state, the annual town meeting seemed to offer the perfect venue for citizens to discuss potent national issues in a moderated, civil manner with various members of the community. According to Dan DeWalt, a Selectman in the town of Newfane and a leader in statewide efforts to get towns to pass impeachment resolutions, "The entire town of Newfane and the democratic process were energized as a result of our Town Meeting discussion. People were excited that in Town Meetings they were discussing issues that really affected them, and they respected the people who were speaking on the other side."

Hoping to inspire the town of Middlebury to commence dialogues on the Iraq War at the Town Meeting, Hoover drafted a petition in December asking the Select Board to warn citizens of a non-binding, proposed resolution to bring home the troops from Iraq and to "take good care of them when they get home." After collecting 300 signatures — 50 signatures above the required five percent quota — from local citizens, Hoover presented the petition to the Select Board so that it would be placed on the warning for the annual town meeting and voted on alongside the other articles on the warning by Australian ballot.

In the past, the law for citizens hoping to get a non-binding resolution on the town meeting warning stipulated that five percent of the town's population must first sign a petition. The Select Board was then required to recognize the issue and place it on the warning for debate and discussion at the town meeting.

But when a Supreme Court ruling on Jan. 23 found a new interpretation of the rules for placing items on the warning, a wall of red tape flew up in front of Hoover.

"I had no idea it would be this difficult," she says. "I thought by having 50 signatures over the required 300 I was totally covered."

Following the Supreme Court's ruling on advisory articles and opinion polls, select boards were granted the power to decline petitions for new agenda items that were not germane to town business. The Middlebury Select Board found Hoover's resolution to fall outside the realm of "relevant to town business," and decided to reject Hoover's petition from the warning.

Hoover says she was surprised at the Board's ruling, since her petition contained the required number of signatures. On Jan. 30, the Select Board held a meeting that Hoover and the Olinicks attended in hopes of contesting the Board's rejection of her petition.

According to the minutes recorded at the Jan. 30 meeting, Hoover argued that "The Secretary of State's website notes that historically Vermont Town Meeting was a forum for discussing matters not germane to Town government."

The Board upheld their previous decision to reject Hoover's resolution and to restrict warned items to those that are "germane to town business" given the limited amount of time to work on the required town business on town meeting night.

Mike Bayersdorfer

Prominent Iraq War critic Cindy Sheehan addressed the College community last month at an event advocating for the local resolutions at the center of the town meeting controversy.

Following Town Meeting, the Select Board faced criticism from supporters of the petition for the Board's silence when asked to explain why they rejected Hoover's petition. At Monday's meeting, Judy Olinick confronted the Board, asking, "When the people asked [how you made your decision], how could you sit there like stone?"

The lack of clarity resulted in a general confusion among citizens present at the Town Meeting. Confusion led to heated emotions and citizens spent most of the last hour of the meeting debating the procedure of voting on un-warned resolutions rather than discussing the war on Iraq.

This was just one of the questions in regards to the debate over Hoover's resolution that the Board addressed at last Monday's Select Board meeting. The item on the agenda that received the most thorough debate was an item that called for discussion on the "policy concerning questions to be warned for town meeting."

The Board began its meeting with remarks about the overall success of the Town Meeting. But John Tenny, the Select Board Chair was quick to address the biggest pitfall of the gathering and the main reason why Hoover and the Olinicks were present. Tenny began the discussion about the Board's decision to reject Hoover's petition from the town meeting by clarifying that the Board's intent was not to prevent discussion of the resolutions, but to simply ensure that they were discussed in a proper manner.

Tenny reflected on the Board's meeting with Hoover and the Olinicks in January when the three citizens tried to appeal the Board's decision to reject Hoover's resolution.

"We met with you at the second meeting when you folks came forward to contest our exclusion, and it was my expectation that this would be brought up as a resolution [at the meeting] and would be something that the assembled meeting would vote on," said Tenny.

Hoover said she was understanding of the Board's good intentions, but felt it was "unfortunate that so much time was spent on the technicalities of the vote and not on debating the issue." "What we had hoped was that there would be some civil discussion," said Hoover.

Another point of frustration for Olinick was that the Board put other articles, like a non-binding resolution related to hydroelectric power on the town meeting, while expressly rejecting the Iraq resolution. Without a clear explanation, he said the Board's decision seemed arbitrary and "undemocratic."

According to Olinick, "The board can warn anything they want and they tend to warn things that they on their own volition want to vote yes on."

Olinick also explained that the fact that the resolution was rejected from the warning effectively discredited the resolution and only allowed for a brief discussion and a vote of yay or nay. Hoover seconded that emotion, saying, "What we wanted was a vote that counted."

For Judy Olinick, that the resolution would be voted upon by Australian ballot was integral to a successful presentation of the resolution for a number of reasons. Resolutions voted upon by Australian ballot must first be placed on the warning. Warning the resolutions ahead of time would have allowed citizens plenty of time prior to the meeting to prepare remarks for debate and discussion of the resolution. In addition, a separate vote by Australian ballot would have allowed significantly more people than just those present at the end of the meeting the opportunity to vote on the issue.

Select Board member Bill Perkins explained that the main motivating factor in his vote to reject the resolution from the town meeting was that he felt the resolution failed to show that it was "germane to town business."

In a conversation after the Town Meeting, Perkins expressed his views on the debate about town meeting warnings.

"My personal opinion is that the Town Meeting is not a place to vent," said Perkins. "We try to keep these kinds of issues from taking over a town meeting, if you take this to the extreme, there's no limit to the number of social issues that can be brought up at these meetings. My concern is that they will unduly clutter up the process of getting the town's business done."

"We can't solve the Iraq war, we can't impeach the president, these national issues come up from time to time and the warned items should be limited to those that are germane to town business," said Perkins. "Obviously there is a huge interest in these issues, but they are not issues on which the town has direct control."

Victor Nuovo, another Selectman on the Board, spoke differently about the role of the town meeting, but was still undecided as to whether the Board should warn non-binding resolutions like Hoover's or simply allow those issues to arise under "other business to come before the town".

"I think that the town meeting, apart from settling municipal business, is an opportunity for the town to come, raise and discuss issues, even controversial ones," said Nuovo. "I wish there had been more discussion and that we weren't talking procedurally. On the other hand I think the procedural issue is really fundamental."

The board hopes to establish an ad-hoc committee to examine the policy on warning articles further and come to a consensus that the people agree upon.

DeWalt noted that similar confusion over the legality of warnings and the Select Board's precise role occurred in other towns.

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As alumni from Midd, I know that cash can be tight, and
WE CARE ABOUT YOUR BUDGET!!!
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editorials

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A recommendation for recommendation #37

A progress report released last week confirmed the steady implementation of the College's strategic plan, "Knowlege Without Boundaries." Paul Rusesabagina's speech and increased financial aid grants for the class of 2011 are just some of the positive examples of the plan's implementation. At Monday's faculty meeting the Educational Affairs Committee (EAC) presented their pitch to fulfill recommendation #37 of the strategic plan — "Eliminate triple majors and reduce the number of double majors."

Recommendation #37 argues that triple and double majors place undue pressure on both the faculty and curriculum. With each student signing on to a major, a department needs to provide an advisor, sufficient senior seminars and enough faculty to offer one-on-one academic guidance. These demands spread the faculty thin and lead to overcrowded introductory level classes.

To control the consequences of multiple majors, the EAC suggests a far-reaching policy that outright eliminates the triple major option, while subtly reigning in the options for students considering a double major. But the potential complications of dictating a set number of majors and minors students can declare were revealed as faculty began to question how joint majors and interdisciplinary programs would fit in. As Cut C. and Else Silberman Professor of Jewish Studies Robert Schine observed, the proposal seems to be a big flyswatter for a small fly.

But the EAC's measure goes even further than the immediate aims of recommendation #37, and states that students may only declare a major up through their fourth semester of school. While this does not prohibit double majors, it means that those who wish to double major will have to know so by sophomore spring, at the very latest. The requirement would mean that students returning from overseas would no longer be able to pursue a new academic focus upon their return to Middlebury. No new Russian majors after a semester in the shadow of the Winter Palace and no new activist political science majors after a semester learning about social mobility in South Africa. Students who are simply inspired by a discipline they discovered late in their college career would be discouraged from exploring the topic in major depth.

We understand the great pressure placed on the faculty and also agree with the goals of the strategic plan's recommendations but in dealing with recommendation #37 of the strategic plan, the administration should look to an even more prescient proposal in the strategic plan for more prudent action.

The plan to hire twenty more faculty members over the next five years should be the central element to relieving a stressed faculty. Triple majors should be banned but double majors should not be discouraged. Students should have at least until their return to campus as seniors to finalize their major and minor declarations. All four years at Middlebury should be a period of far-reaching academic exploration, not just the first two.

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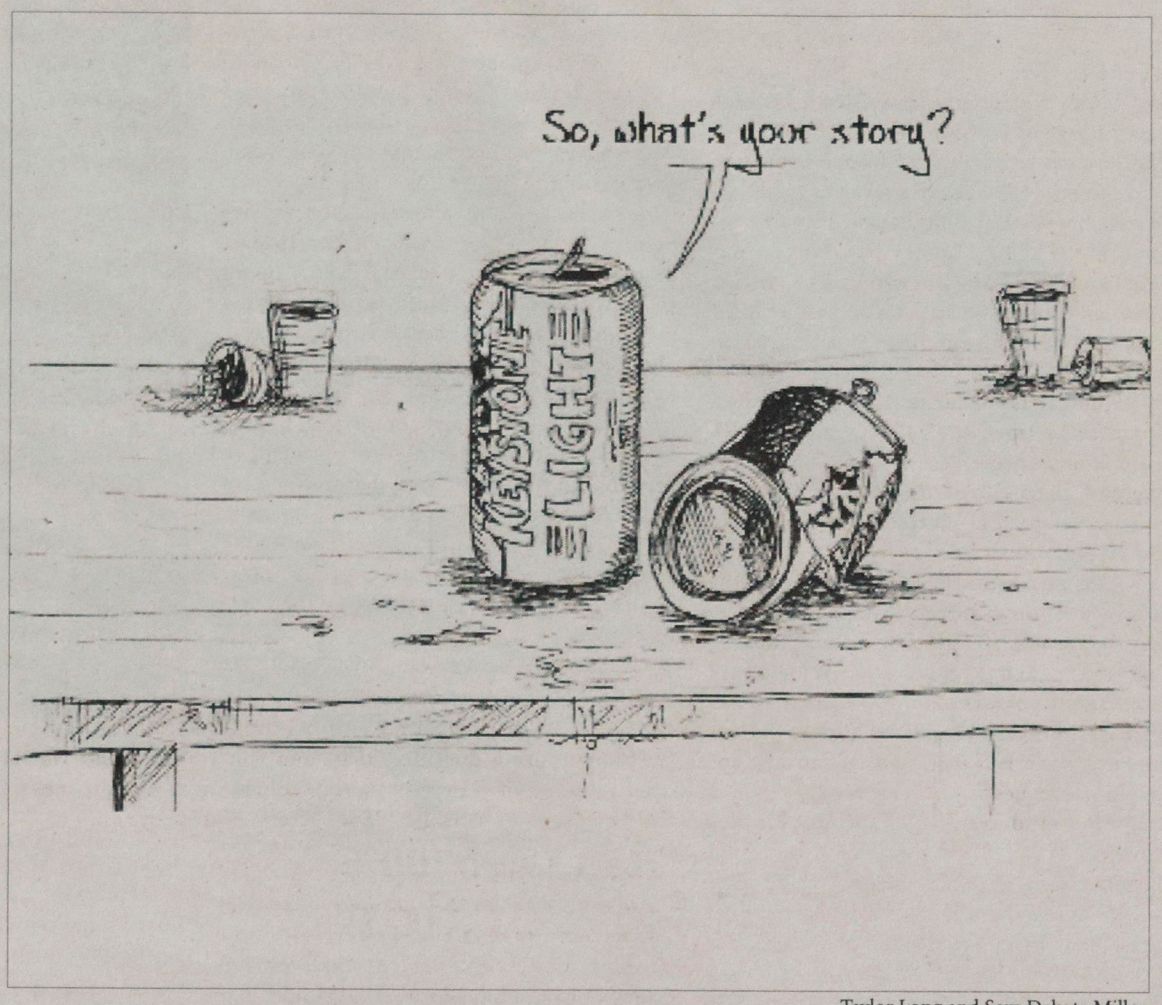

Taylor Long and Sam Dakota Miller

letters to the editor

To the Editor:

When I read the opening paragraph of *The Campus*' Feb. 28 Mardi Gras article, I was a bit appalled at the depiction of our celebration: "Tales of debauchery, lewd conduct and women flashing their assets up and down Bourbon Street have made the annual event in New Orleans an x-rated affair and certainly no place for children."

Flashing women and bacchanalia are often associated with the New Orleans celebration, and I cannot deny that this sort of behavior does happen, but what I can say is that the people participating in these acts are predominately tourists on Bourbon Street, and they are often swiftly arrested.

The New Orleans Mardi Gras experience is a family affair that takes place outside of the French Quarter. In fact, none of the major Mardi Gras parades even enter the French Quarter. The carnival season is a long-standing tradition with deep ties to the start of Lent. It is seen as a time of celebration, during which Catholics feast and party prior to the fasting and other restrictions of Lent. "Getting loaded" is not the "traditional Catholic mission of Mardi Gras," but rather a modern day adaptation of the celebration, which many tourists seem to believe is the quintessential Mardi Gras activity.

The local New Orleans newspaper, *The Times-Picayune*, ran a front-page article last year titled "Their Mardi Gras, Our Mardi Gras." The staff writer wished to countermand the myth that the celebration is a heathenish brawl of debauchery. The article was published during a debate on whether it was appropriate or not for the city to celebrate in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, and it expressed the same opinion that the majority of New Orleans residents shared at the time: of course it's appropriate, this is what we do, it's our heritage, and it's the only way for our city to come back.

The people of New Orleans worked so hard to have Mardi Gras last year because of its cultural significance, not because it is some form of bloated fraternity party.

Matthew Amoss '07
New Orleans, LA

To the Editor:

Last week's Winner's and Loser's column in *The Campus* labeled the Senior 100 Days Party "hot." It might have been. I'll have to take the editors' word on that, because as a senior who is not yet 21, I was not allowed to attend. According to the ID checkers, the Senior Committee had told security that there were no under-21 seniors to worry about.

Note to the Committee: I will not turn 21 for another nine months, and I doubt that I am the only senior who still cannot legally drink. This is not the first time that underage seniors have been barred from such events — I distinctly remember this being a problem two years ago. Let's find a solution. The Senior Committee should do its homework, and make sure such senior-year events are open to all members of our class.

Olivia Bailey '07
Londonderry, VT

continued on opposite page

campus policies and information

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notes from the desk: Ilhan Kim

Graduation is like death

I lied. I never went to go visit my jailbird buddy John Chetuck over Christmas as I promised in my last Notes. But I've been doing other good things like cooking dinner for my friends, representing Brainerd Commons for the Iron Chef competition, running a grassroots campaign to bring the Korean language to Middlebury, building a ten-person igloo in front of 82 Adirondack House, dyeing my hair copper and gold in succession, and making sure that professors and deans look stunning in the paper.

Not visiting John and what I've been doing otherwise don't really correlate, but they give you a sum sense of how I've been keeping busy my last semester at Middlebury. Now, you can say that I've been spreading myself thin (considering I haven't gotten to seen Connor, my seven-year-old Community Friend, since December), but I like to think positively. So let's just say that I'm trying to squeeze in everything I always wanted to do at Middlebury my first three years into the two months that I have left. It's ambitious, but definitely do-able.

Frankly, I'm on edge. I feel old now when I look at the mirror (I'm 22) and I feel like I'm being pushed off a treacherous cliff come the end of May. I hate clichés, but yes, it really does seem like just yesterday when I was jumping around in my dad's underwear, screaming, "I want Mommy!" And now I have to decide whether I should become a corporate minion in New York or London or live at home and start up my own T-shirt company. Then I don't have to look at MOJO all day long and I can scrap the whole job search process altogether. Ha! I already have one! No, my parents won't buy it.

Graduation is like death. No more breakfast beers, minute-long keg stands or anything else you wouldn't tell your kids about even when they're old enough to know. It sneaks up on you like a thief in the night and robs you of your innocence and childish ways. But the worst part of it all is that you see it coming and it floods your mind with unnecessary fear and anxiety. It's made me want to speed-dial my psychiatrist and look for silly, mindless activities to cope with this unfriendly exit approaching me on May 27. It's scary, but like all matters in life, there is always hope.

I find hope in knowing that I've lived it up here since day one and I intend to ride out the dwindling days in equal fashion. You can find me cooking up a healthy batch of honey-ginger tea for the ill or an unhealthy batch of Annie's Mac & Cheese for the famished at the Gamut Room on Tuesday nights at 11 o'clock or spinning Korean and Jewish music in the WRMC studio in upper Proctor with Sam Temes on Thursday mornings at 9:30 am.

You can also find me, on occasion, in my igloo meditating while enjoying some tasty beverages. But even that, too, will come to end when spring comes and the snow melts. So? I accept. And I move on.

op-ed: Ken Lazo '09.5

Call for condoms

The Student Global AIDS Campaign (SGAC) on campus recently began work on an initiative to provide free condom distribution in all dorms. As of now, free condoms are available at the Health Center and a few dorms. The new initiative would make condoms readily available in every bathroom of each dorm. The proposal is part of an effort to ensure that those who are sexually active will protect themselves. Additionally the SGAC is urging the College to assume a stronger position regarding safe-sex awareness on campus. The new proposal, however, raises several ethical and health concerns that warrant strong consideration by the student body and the administration.

Recently, the SGAC conducted a student survey on condom accessibility on campus. The results from the survey confirmed the SGAC's impressions on condom accessibility. Most importantly, students favored the proposed condom accessibility in the bathrooms.

The purpose of the survey was to evaluate the student body reaction to the proposed initiative. With the support of the student body, it seems that better condom accessibility would encourage a safer sexual environment within the student body and send a strong message that the college community is actively involved in promoting safe sex. However most of the concerns that arise with an endorsement of the college for better condom accessibility relate to ethics.

Some might argue that the appearance of condoms in the bathroom would encourage more people to have sex. It is a reasonable argument. The college is already a sexually active community. The addition of condoms to our local bathrooms could be the right stimulus to encourage sexually-frustrated, overworked students who have been left behind. Nevertheless, it is just unreasonable to consider an increase in safer sex as a sexual pandemic. Practically speaking, I fail to see where the drawbacks outweigh the benefits. The issue is safe sex.

Ken Lazo is a Feb in the Class of 2009. He hails from South Pasadena, California.

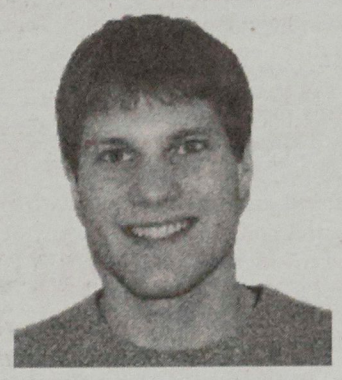
heardoncampus

"We may not have a pandemic for years, but we'll have a plan, and students will have plans."

— Dr. Mark Peluso, Director of Middlebury Health Center, on the need for pandemic flu preparedness

more matter: Matty Van Meter

Applaud the President



As any person in an executive position knows, succeeding a popular and charismatic leader is no easy task. There is a natural inclination on the part of the people being managed to idolize the former administration, and to vilify the successor. I think President Ronald D. Liebowitz finds himself in such a position. Apart from being a great leader, President Emeritus John M. McCardell was a popular, charismatic and well-spoken president. He is a hard act to follow.

But why is McCardell's legacy so strong? And why does gaining student respect and loyalty seem to be a chronic, uphill battle for Liebowitz? After all, the last students who actually remember John McCardell's presidency of the College will be gone by next February.

Malcolm Gladwell, in his book "Blink", notices that our attitudes towards someone, and therefore our actions towards them, are largely affected by an arbitrary set of visual cues. Gladwell notes that Warren Harding, perhaps the worst president in American history, was elected in 1920 in large part because he was "irresistibly distinguished-looking." In other words, he looked presidential. This did not affect his actual performance as president, which was phenomenally ineffectual, but it affected the perception of his performance and certainly his chances of election.

How does this relate to Middlebury? In addition to the traits listed earlier, John McCardell's single most valuable asset with students was that he looked presidential. The analogy to Harding is limited since McCardell was a great president of the College, but it is the lingering memory of his authoritative, presidential presence — complete with myriad Facebook groups — that gives him continued popularity. Even those people who may not agree with the direction McCardell took the College in, still feel a pang of nostalgia.

To continue from Gladwell's lead, where does our current leader fall on the Harding scale? I think that few would dispute he appears less presidential than his predecessor. While he looks smart and young and handsome, he lacks the approachable, but quiet and distinguished composure of "Johnny Mac."

He also, for that matter, lacks a sufficiently catchy nickname.

These are judgments which all of us, like it or not, make in the blink of an eye. Again, unrelated to his actions, philosophy, or the direction he's taken the College, we judge Liebowitz on a set of visual cues.

This matters because there are chronic complaints that Liebowitz is not approachable, even though he holds open office hours and dines with students in Ross. Students complain that the new President is responsible for the perceived decline in social life on campus, an aspect of College life over which the president has little or no influence. There is also the feeling that he has done less for the College than his predecessor, though he has already refocused long-term spending, and raised the annual giving to the school—the courting and securing of which is a major job of the leader of any non-profit organization—to record heights. He was steady, concerned and articulate in the face of the heated and drawn-out debate over the Rehnquist professorship, and yet took much of the heat.

It is part of the job of a college president to be at once a figurehead and a punching bag—to be irrevocably associated with every action of the institution, savory and unsavory. But it seems that critics should take a step back and look objectively at Liebowitz's leadership, with more than a blink of the eye. He has done a fine job, and we all reap the rewards of his fruitful work.

letters to the editor

continued from opposite page

To the editor:

I'd like to applaud the organizers of the Atwater Commons blood drive that took place last week. Despite the many students and community members waiting to donate last Tuesday, I was in and out in just over an hour. I was treated by professionals and couldn't have asked for a better experience. Giving blood is so easy as the Red Cross comes right to our school in the middle of Vermont. We don't have to make any extra effort besides walking to the student center. If you missed out on giving blood this time, I hope you're able to donate the next time the Red Cross comes to campus

David Schoenholtz '07
Bethesda, MD

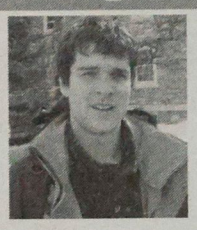
To the Editor:

Are Middlebury College students apathetic? It's a question that the upcoming anniversary of the start of the War in Iraq begs of us. We're busy, certainly, and perhaps feel helpless in the face of the huge and — for most of us — abstract issue of war, but we do care. Right? Judging by the crowd of students and community members that turned up and packed Kirk Alumni Center to hear Cindy Sheehan and a panel of Iraq veterans, a Vermont reporter and an impeachment activist speak about their experiences, the answer is yes.

But is caring enough? Thus far, our guilt, our horror, our sorrow haven't done much to bring an end to the War in Iraq, let alone to address the conflicts in Darfur, Iran, and Afghanistan— so, what can we do? How should we respond to war? The first step, I think, is to begin a dialogue: ask why we're fighting, how we can get out, when withdrawal should occur. The panel Friday began this discussion powerfully, and now a student group, Hope for Peace, is working to continue the discourse. Whatever your views on immediate withdrawal, I'd encourage you to take part in this conversation because collaboration will bring us the best solutions. Look out for upcoming events, and stop by the Gamut Room. The time to act is, of course, now.

Kate Brittain '07
North Chittenden, VT

the web poll: Would you go to a nightclub or bar run by Middlebury?



"Sketch-cullough with alcohol? Hell yeah."

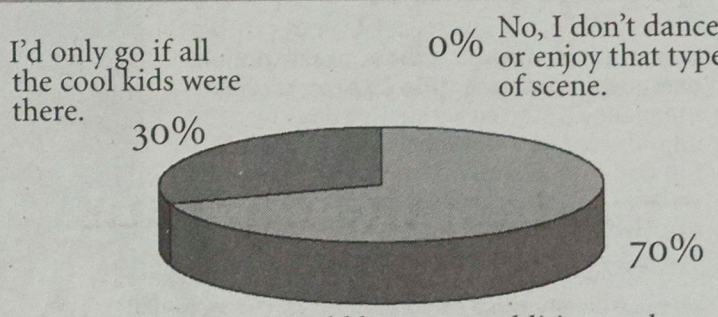
— JAMES GIAMPETRO '09

"I might go if there were good dance parties. As long as it wasn't monitored by the college, because then it would probably be lame."

— HILLARY COLEMAN '10

"I'm all for it as long as there is no cut off policy on drinks!"

— ALEX SCOTT '07


I'd only go if all the cool kids were there.
30%
0%
No, I don't dance or enjoy that type of scene.
70%
Sure, it would be a great addition to the social scene on campus.

Results taken from poll at www.middleburycampus.com

Next week's web poll: Do you think Middlebury is an apathetic campus compared to other colleges?

op-ed: **Daniel Roberts**

The Academy got it mostly right

The Oscars happened two weekends ago. They were pretty sweet, right? Or, I guess not, according to America; it was the lowest-rated Oscars telecast in decades. I see your point cinema buffs, so let me say touché — at a droning more than 4 hours, who cares enough to stay up until Best Picture is announced?

So, I feel you. I really do. Yet, the truth is that for those of us who watch the Oscars each year, last Sunday's ceremony was the best Academy Awards Night in a long time. Why, you ask? For once, the movies that were good simply because they were entertaining and well done, not because they advanced some political agenda or message of tolerance, took away the trophies. That is why it was a delightful four hours, even if the Academy did sneak in numerous excessive montages, creepy costume re-enactments and unfunny speeches galore.

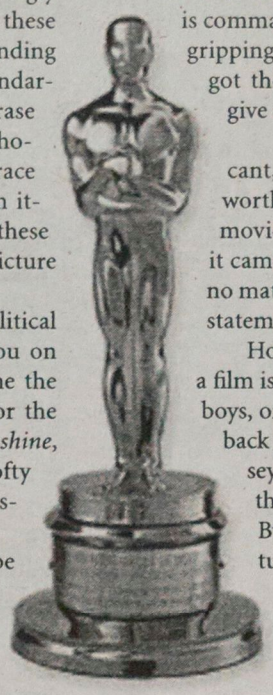
Last year was a perfect example of my gripe about the Academy. *Brokeback Mountain, Munich* and even *Capote* were all great movies characterized by outstanding performances and gripping plots. Any of these would have satisfied me if they had earned Best Picture. But no, the prize went to *Crash*, a jumbled collage of race-inspired incidents strewn together with the simple goal of impressing voters because they dealt with a touchy topic. *Crash* did not deserve Best Picture, just as Alan Arkin should not have earned Best Supporting Actor this year, just as Scorsese should own five statues by now.

The problem with the way the Academy chooses its winners is that it allows external biases and influences to tarnish its decisions. The way I see it (and call me crazy), the winner in each category that begins with "Best…" should be the film or performance that was of the highest quality, regardless of any political or otherwise irrelevant fact.

The choice of *Crash* in 2005 for Best Picture illustrates the fact that in America we are becoming so increasingly guilty of our past sins (slavery, segregation, etc.) that these voters suddenly feel they have to make up for it by handing out an Academy Award to any film that "breaks boundaries," or "tackles a delicate issue" or any other cliché phrase of political correctness you can dream up. *Crash* was chosen because it was a movie that dealt bravely with race tensions in Los Angeles, despite the fact that the film itself did not actually say anything compelling about these issues, and was the least well-done of the five Best Picture nominees that year.

Finally, this year, the film which strove for no political statement of any kind, but worked solely to keep you on the edge of your seat — *The Departed* — took home the prize. Hooray. In addition, the other front runner for the big award, according to rumors, was *Little Miss Sunshine*, which was equally entertaining and devoid of any lofty aspirations toward advancing a pedantic political message. Good work, Academy.

Of course, Alan Arkin, with a grand total of maybe twenty minutes of screen time in this "little dramedy that could" stole the Supporting Actor statue from the far more deserving hands of both Mark Wahlberg and Djimon Hounsou. Let's be honest, sorry to offend, but this was because the guy is old. He is a veteran of Hollywood and probably won't be putting out too many more nomination-worthy performances. I know, I know, Peter O'Toole proves this wrong, but his nomination this year was really just a parting gift, since the guy looked like he was at death's door, and his role in *Venus* was really just a parody of his own life. Anyway, the Alan Arkin win is another example of the voters allowing outside forces to influence their decisions. They figured, well, Wahlberg is commanding and bold, and Djimon Hounsou is gripping and moves you to tears, but hey, they've got their entire careers in front of them. Let's give a little gift to good 'ole Alan.



I may stand alone, but in my insignificant, common moviegoer eyes, I see a film's worth as being judged only by the film itself. A movie should not be judged by the time period it came in or by the external forces it alludes to, no matter how bold or revolutionary its political statement is announced.

Honestly, watch out, because some day soon a film is going to come out in which two gay cowboys, one black and one asian, journey on horseback to the land of intolerance (let's say New Jersey) with pink Polo sweatshirts wrapped over their shoulders and courage in their hearts. By the film's end, Brett and Taylor will have turned the cold stares of their formidable new neighbors into loving embraces, and softened the frowns of intolerance across the globe. "Oscar buzz" will begin to circulate immediately, but, you know what? My vote will be cast for the movie that simply entertained me the most. In other words, I'll be rooting for *Harold and Kumar Go To Amsterdam*, seiously.

Daniel Roberts is a member of the Class of 2009 and hails from Newton, Mass. He is an English Major.

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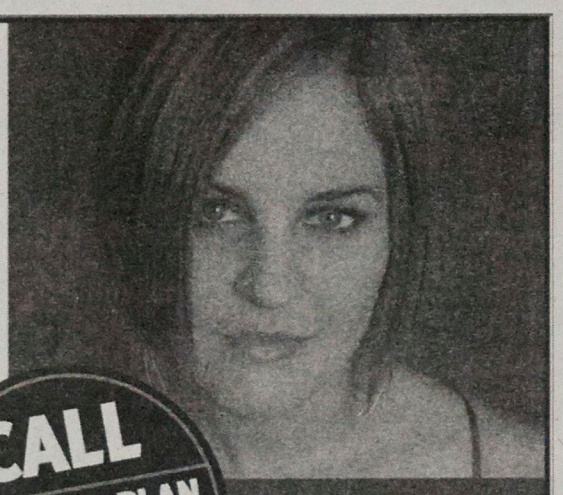

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Driving Miss Drunky: Unspoken Midd Ride Rules

By H.Kay Merriman
Staff Writer

From the cold, tired, often intoxicated students chasing after the "big white bus," to the stubborn, insistent, nearly fearless ones who simply step out in front of the moving vehicle, desperate students will do anything to catch a Midd Ride.

"She was saying 'Thank you so much! Let me just kiss you!' and leaning over into the drivers' seat trying to kiss me" says student driver Lizz Herron-Sweet '09 of a gracious girl who entered her Midd Ride.

Others do not understand. Driver Spencer Paddock '09 mimics the reaction of one very confused student he picked up one fateful Sunday night, asking, "Whose car is this? Where are you guys taking me? How did I get in here?"

Although I originally hoped to compile a series of stories more compelling than MTV's *The Real World* confessional, after riding around, observing fellow Midd Riders and interviewing various drivers, I soon realized that, like *The Real World*, each episode on a Midd Ride is very similar — the dramatic situations are not unique. I did notice, however, that most students lacked any knowledge of the capabilities of Midd Ride or the unwritten code of conduct on the bus. In light of this, I have compiled a list of tips to help riders avoid falling victim to the same mistakes of the uninformed, inexperienced rider.

1. A full van is a full van. "The van doesn't move if there are more than nine people on," said Public Safety employee Laurent Lussier, who drives the Midd Ride van on Friday and Saturday nights. Herron-Sweet recalls when 17 students tried to get on at once from the E-Lot. "'But we'll be quiet,' they were saying, but they didn't understand that no matter how quiet they were, we couldn't drive 17 people," says Herron-Sweet.

2. Midd Ride vans don't back up. Ever wonder why the van seems to take a round-about route? Confused bar-goers did one Thursday night when the van drove past Angela's and turned left into Frog Hollow. "You passed it! Are you kidnapping us?!" they yelled. "Everything is a blind spot," said student driver Sage Sipchen '09. "Everyone expects us to back up in KDR's driveway, but we physically can't."

3. "Downtown" is the great euphemism for the bar. On Thursdays, most calls to the dispatcher do not request rides to the bar or Angela's, but to "town." Last Thursday, when the passengers informed the driver that their collective destination was "town," one cavalier student spoke up. "Let's be real. We're all going to Angela's," he said.

4. Tell the dispatcher the truth. "Some kid thought that if he said four people were waiting when there were only two, we would get to them faster. That's not the way we work," says Sipchen.

5. Thanks to the new bus, you still have all your fingers. "This bus was new in the fall. It's a lot nicer and more comfortable," says Lussier. "The old one had bus style doors where you could shut the door and stop them [students] when you were full."

6. Stepping in front of a moving Midd Ride van does not guarantee you a seat. "Busy nights, kids are in the middle of the road. We can't stop. The van is already full and other people have called ahead," says Laussier.

7. Midd Ride drivers may mess with your already scrambled mind. Herron-Sweet and Sipchen wear bunny ears while driving and observe people's reactions. Confused students outside Angela's responded with their own bunny ears with their hands to signal that they needed a ride.

Now, readily informed, use Midd Rides as you will. If you want to share the most intimate details of your life story, chances are it will be overheard. No need to worry, though. What happens on Midd Ride tends to stay on Midd Ride. Lussier said his favorite part of driving is "just listening to the kids," but would not reveal any incriminating stories. Finally, keep up the good work! Lussier describes riders as "mostly grateful." "Most of the time, they're pretty good about it. Just be nice to the [drivers] when they tell you they can only take nine people," he says. Student driver Christina Spencer '08 adds, "If they want to get dropped off the quickest, the easiest way to a Midd Ride Driver's heart is offering us quality Grille food."

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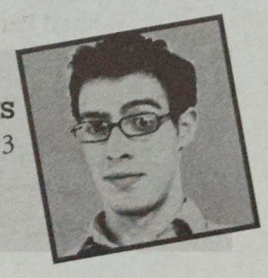
newton's laws
The last ad free zone, page 13



sexsage
by Sage Bierster

After a year in Brazil, a country where the cover of *Playboy* is rarely a shot of the woman's front, I realize that the ass is highly underappreciated in this country. I've never really had an ounce of cleavage, but when it comes to my backside, well, I've got plenty. My butt had never received as much attention as when it was abroad, and frankly, I miss it. And it's not just me: many women and men on campus feel they have a lot going on behind them and that no one is looking. How unfortunate, really, when the butt is such a beautiful thing. It should be celebrated not only in that great pair of jeans or dress that hugs your curves, but also in bed.

There are all sorts of ways that the ass can be incorporated into your sex life. The problem is that you might be more or less comfortable with certain practices than your partner and these issues need to be addressed. But how do you bring up certain topics pertaining to the bottom and all its attributes without (a) making them uncomfortable and (b) ruining the idea by talking it to death? For example, how do you slap someone's ass for the first time? Do you just go for it, hoping not to get punched in the face in retaliation, or do you ask permission first, even when that certainly takes some of the spontaneity out of it? What about foreplay – are you O.K. with your mouth or fingers engaging someone's nether regions and vice versa, and if you are, do you just tell them that or do you wait for them to bring up the subject? Activities such as these are perfectly healthy and enjoyable, but they aren't everyone's cup of tea.

Then, of course, there's anal sex. It can be a tricky subject to bring up because, whether gay or straight, you or your partner might have preconceived notions or hesitations about engaging in such an activity. Or perhaps one of you has tried it and not enjoyed it, while the other gets great pleasure from it. As with all sexual matters, there is a fine line you must tread between pleasing and respecting your partner and enjoying yourself. You should never engage in anything you don't feel comfortable doing, but at the same time there is a lot to be said for keeping an open mind and trying new things. Perhaps it is for these reasons that many men and women I know have engaged in anal activities with long-term partners with whom they feel very comfortable. But if you are simply interested in experimenting and not in a relationship, the key is to be very clear about what you want and what your boundaries are.

The best thing to remember is that your desires are perfectly normal — unless they involve dead chickens or anything that is reminiscent of *Pink Flamingos*, in which case you might have a problem. The great thing about the butt is that it is a very democratic erogenous zone. We all have one, so we can't engage in that whole penis-vagina argument. There are men that enjoy getting spanked, and there are women who enjoy anal sex. So I suggest you look to the rear for inspiration during your next encounter of the sexual kind, and you might be surprised by what you find.

Defense or Offense? Carmola wants to know

By Joseph Bergan
Features Editor

DynCorp. Blackwater. Janusian — While these names may be foreign to some Americans, they constitute the most influential companies currently serving on the front lines side by side with American troops. And these are just a handful of the hundreds of privately owned global security forces active around the globe.

The world of military defense is often nebulous territory, as C.A. Johnson Fellow in Political Philosophy Kateri Carmola is discovering as she begins writing a new book focusing on law, ethics and private contracting in warfare.

"In warfare, like sports, defensive is often very much offensive and it's often almost a paper thin line between what you call defensive and what you call offensive," says Carmola.

Private security companies are either privately or publicly-held entities that provide security services on a contractual basis for government agencies and larger corporations. However, this definition is not always so clear. A cursory glance at some of these corporations' websites reveals just how murky defining private security contracting can be. DynCorp's site maintains that they are "building on 60 years of innovation and trust," and technically, the company is a "multifaceted, global enterprise that provides innovative solutions to the diverse technology and professional services needs of government and commercial industry worldwide."

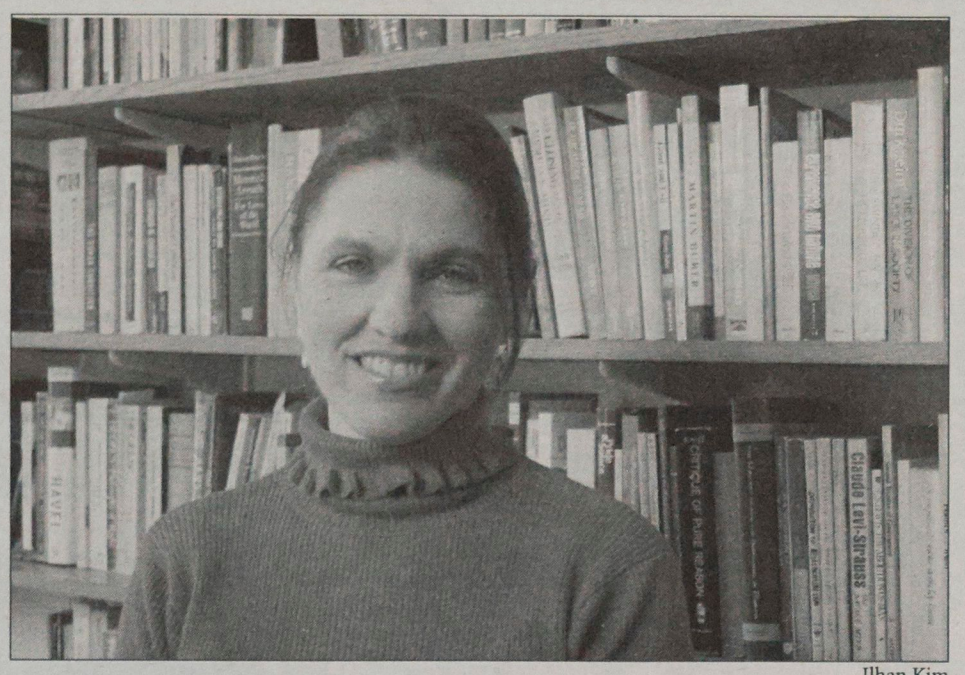
However, some are more direct. Blackwater's website proudly states that it is "not simply a 'private security company.' We are a professional military, law enforcement, security, peacekeeping and stability operations firm who provides turnkey solutions."

Carmola describes such 'turnkey solutions' as "the most offensive, defensive security," adding that, "[Blackwater employees] have actually engaged in combat next to U.S. troops."

Carmola acknowledges that she is currently working on a very hot topic, but her path was not always so clear.

"I first came to the project because I was looking at the legal and ethical problems that first surfaced after 9/11 and the war in Afghanistan," she says. Researching Afghanistan, Carmola looked closely at the Northern Alliance. "I began becoming interested in what happens when we use what are called proxy forces, or indigenious forces that we are supporting with money, logistics or advice, who do not abide by the same relative standards of ethics," she says.

A student paper on "Executive Outcomes," an African-based security contractor, provided the necessary spark for Carmola's work. "Executive Outcomes" was a private company, therefore, a force that is neither indigenous nor governmental. With her draft due at the end of the summer, Carmola is in the midst of writing and researching exactly how these companies interact with the political science of war and law.



Ilhan Kim
Researching a book about private security companies, Prof. Carmola poses in her office

"These companies are like any corporate entity," says Carmola. The company may start small, using the same methods as the local baker or McDonalds with some start up money, and then either grow into or be absorbed by a larger corporate entity. "Sometimes they are privately funded, sometimes they go public."

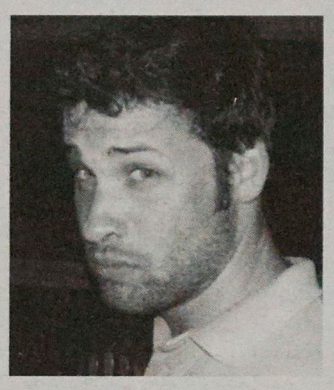
"Right now, there are 25,000 – 30,000 armed security people in Iraq, just private security," she says. However, these companies are global in scope. These companies make money by obtaining contracts either from governments or other corporations to police and secure areas. In places such as the former Yugoslavia — "[The United States] does not have peacekeepers any more, we have DynCorp," said Carmola. With a real need for soldiers in Iraq and Afghanistan, these ex-military types currently fill the shoes of old Military Police, in peacekeeping situations.

Carmola adds that the U.N. model of peacekeeping has come into question after the realization of the effectiveness of these armies-for-hire.

These contractors also affect more than peacekeeping and combat. "There's a lot of insurance policy that has been woven into this business, through corporate kidnap and ransom insurance," says Carmola, as not only governments but also television networks need the security forces to obtain insurance. Carmola cites the American Broadcasting Company as a corporation that has contracted these services. If they don't have the security, the reporters lose their life insurance.

As the United States continues to be active in foreign combat, private security forces will continue to play a large role in foreign policy. "It has become a hot topic since I have been covering it," Carmola said about her book. Although you probably have never heard of Blackwater, if the United States government and Carmola's predictions are correct, you will definitely know them by name soon enough.

15 minutes with... R. J. Weiss '07



Childhood Ambition... to design video games.
First Job... working at the Massachusetts State House.
Inspiration... trying to be smarter than James Gorski '07.5
Soundtrack... "Diamond Dogs" by David Bowie.
Indulgence... expensive scotch.
Last purchase... a ticket to "300."
Retreat... the sea.

WINNERS & LOSERS

What's hot and what's not on campus and in pop culture? *The Campus* gives its weekly report.

Sunshine	Black ice
After months of darkness and over three feet of snow, the reappearance of the sun makes us feel human again.	We were all expecting the lost hour of sleep, but this black ice is totally whack.
New *Arcade Fire* Album	KoRn: Unplugged
We know the indie crowd is aware, but for the rest of you, this much hyped sophomore effort lives up to the buzz.	What is MTV thinking? Stop trying to act like you still pay attention to music and give us more "Real World: Denver"
"Are you smarter than a 5th grader?"	"American Idol"
The best TV game show ever — Fox, Thursday, 8 p.m.	After Jennifer Hudson's Oscar win, and Clay Aiken's Christmas album, it's clear that "Idol" losers do better than the winners.

Middlebury is on time with DST changes

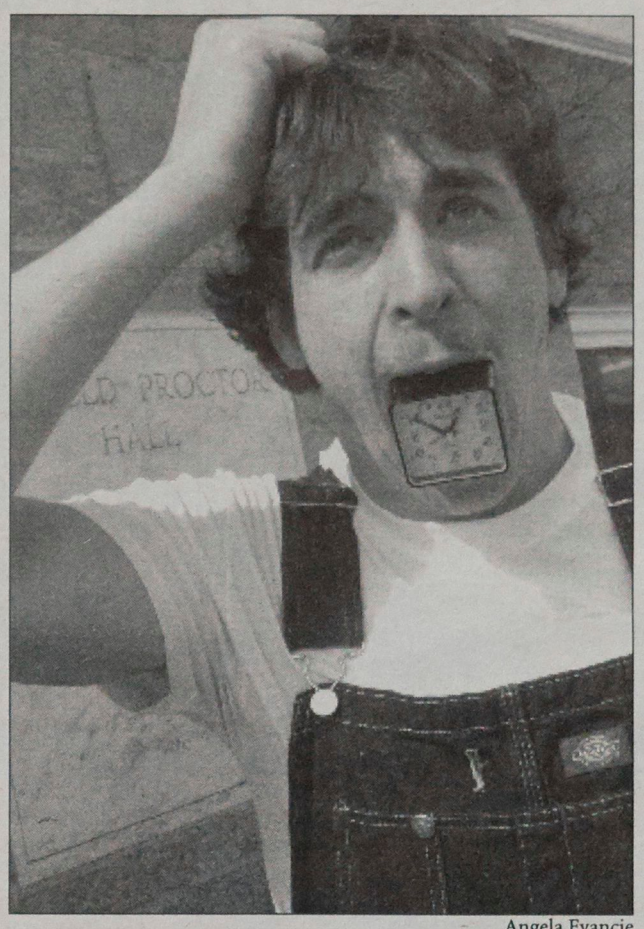
By Polly Johnson
Associate Editor

It was way back in 1784 when an ever-resourceful Benjamin Franklin, wanting to save on candles, first proposed the idea of Daylight Saving Time (DST). Yet DST was not even officially enacted until 1966, under the Uniform Time Act. Now, thanks to the passage of the more current Energy Policy Act of 2005, DST began last Sunday morning at 2 a.m. and will end at 2 a.m. on Nov. 4 — a full three weeks longer than last year.

The initiative has a huge number of supporters who see the change as an easy way to conserve energy and cut greenhouse gas emissions. The hope is that the demand for electricity will fall during early evening peak hours, which will cut fuel consumption.

But according to Campus Sustainability Coordinator Jack Byrne, the benefits go beyond energy savings, "From what I have read about studies that have been done where this has been tried before (particularly in Australia) the possible energy savings benefits are small — somewhere in the 0.5 to 1.0% range," said Byrne. However, there are other benefits, like lowering the rate of traffic accidents, more light to exercise after work and lowering the crime rate. So, it is worth doing, but not necessarily because it will make a significant difference in the consumption of energy."

However, according to Sunday Night Group member Will Martin '07.5, while the policy may not create a huge environmental change, it will have a behavioral effect. "Regardless of any political commentary about the true motivation for such a change," Martin said, "the change does show hope for a more creative, pragmatic response to our energy situation. An effective response to climate change and energy dependency won't come from technology but from behavioral changes. This is one of them. We have the sun, let's use it."



Angela Evancie
Adjusting to an earlier Daylight Savings Time, Isreal Carr '09 eats the time, quite literally, after losing an hour this Sunday.

The initiative required the immediate changing of all College clock settings.

Manager of Central Systems & Lab Support Rick James was in charge of making sure that the College's computer and technology systems transitioned smoothly. He alerted students via an all-student e-mail a couple of weeks ago, that "there would be extended downtime on Sunday, Feb. 18, from 7 a.m. to noon," during which the initial steps were taken to prepare for last Sunday morning.

According to James, his team had to "patch every server, of which there are about 130, as well as the different operating systems — IBM, Linux, the different versions of Windows and Netware. We had to install patches and restart most servers." "Patching" refers to modifications of operating systems. The process, according to James, "took about seven or eight hours to get through," and included "four of us who worked that Sunday." Although it was a "tedious process," with the chance that something could go wrong, James and his team "got through it pretty well."

So far, everything seems to have worked out okay. said James, "Everything seems to be going pretty well. A couple of issues here and there, but other than that, doors unlocked when they were supposed to, everyone seems to be getting to class on time and there have been no major issues."

Although so far problem-free, James was quick to admit that he is "glad it's over!"

Lovaas '07 honored with Fraker Prize

By Gretchen Schrafft
Staff Writer

"What do we see happening here?" asked Mateal Lovaas '07, referring to an illustration from the children's book "Make Way for Ducklings." With a slideshow of images from childhood picture books, Lovaas challenged a group of students and professors gathered in Chellis House to remember such images fondly while simultaneously evaluating them critically.

"Eighty-five percent of the main characters in children's stories are male," explained Lovaas, citing a 1995 census, and emphasizing the theme of her presentation.

Lovaas was the winner of this year's Alison Fraker Prize, an award given to honor the memory of Alison Fraker, who died in a car crash prior to her graduation in 1989. explained Sujata Moorti,

"Her legacy is preserved through the presentation of the award to the Middlebury student who writes the strongest essay addressing issues of women and gender," said Sujata Moorti, chair of the Women's and Gender Department.

Sponsored by Chellis House and the Women's and Gender Studies Department, the selection process invites faculty from across the disciplines to nominate the student work they believe to be the strongest in the class.

Moorti pointed out that the ceremony was held on Mar. 8, International Women's Day, so as to honor the tradition of celebrating the achievements of women worldwide. She praised all eight submissions and acknowledged the difficulty of the selection process.

Lovaas' winning essay entitled, "…to the Moon and Back: Gender Construction in Children's Literature," was written for Assistant Professor of Anthropology Michael Sheridan's sociology course, "Language and Power." In the course, which is designed to examine the relations between linguistic and political practices within society, Lovaas crafted a final project that analyzed the gender biases inherent in children's literature.

In discussing Lovaas' work, Sheriden praised it as, "theoretically daring, taking literature to a place it had never been before."

An International Studies major with a self-declared passion for language, children and writing, Lovaas crafted an essay representing a combination of her greatest interests. Through interviews with children and close reading of texts such as "Angelina Ballerina," "Runaway Bunny" and "Are You My Mother?", Lovaas endeavored to answer the question — "How are popular children's books gender-biased?"

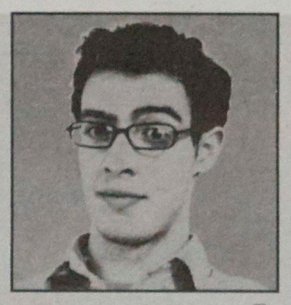
Drawing upon copious examples, Lovaas' presentation showcased very telling facts and statistics about how children's literature represents gender. Her own research unearthed a pattern within children's literature of female characters being represented as passive — differing dramatically from the active qualities attributed to male characters.

Citing a passage from "Where the Wild Things Are," Mateal read "That night, Max wore his wolf suit and made mischief of one kind, and another. His mother called him 'WILD THING' and Max said 'I'LL EAT YOU UP!' So he went to bed without anything."

"Children's picture books hammer in gender biases through male-dominated covers, titles, main character positions, secondary character positions, and active character positions," explained Lovaas. By portraying female characters as "needy," "small," "frightened" and "beautiful," authors are "reinforcing society's hegemonic gender cages regarding characteristics, actions, careers, and emotions."

Lovaas' presentation evidenced a deep attachment to her subject matter and indeed she admits it has impacted her profoundly. "Very few popular children's picture books attempt to subvert these biases and open a world of possibilities to all children," she explained. Ultimately, Lovaas attributes the process of researching and writing the essay "as being instrumental in my decision to turn down a job offer in international development, a field more directly related to my major, and to consider careers such as teaching or children's book writing."

Nirvana Bhatia
Enlightening the crowd, Lovaas put forth her opinion that children's picture books assert gender biases with male-dominated themes.



newton's laws

by Thomas Newton

Does this sound familiar? You open up the Sunday paper, hoping to learn if it's a good day for skiing, only to find that to get to the forecast you must sift through 50 pages of advertisements. In frustration you give up and turn to the TV, only to discover that you must sit through several minutes of commercials before you can hear the weather on the news. You turn off the TV and look up the weather online, only to be bombarded by flashing banners and pop-ups announcing, "You've won a free computer, Click Here!" In a last ditch effort to find the forecast you retreat to your phone and search its web application. Finally, no ads, just simple text and graphics displaying the five-day forecast.

The fact of the matter is that advertising has become an integral part of the modern world and is far too profitable a business for companies to pass up any medium through which they may be able to get their message across. Advertisements change people's preferences, raise demand and increase total revenue. If ads weren't capable of penetrating the consumer conscience as much as they currently do, companies wouldn't be paying $2.7 million to show thirty seconds of their commercials during the Super Bowl, and James Bond and friends wouldn't have been using only Sony electronics in the most recent Bond flick, "Casino Royale." The ubiquity of advertisements seemingly cannot be helped.

The mobile phone, however, is the last safe haven from advertisements. In the U.S., one can surf the web on a cell phone without distracting banners or noisy pop-ups. This sanctuary is soon to be invaded, however, as there are around two billion cell phone subscribers in the world, meaning that more people have access to cell phones than to personal computers — a market too large for any advertiser to give up. Japan, the world's leader in new mobile technologies and a number of Internet using mobile phone subscribers, has had advertisements on the mobile web for several years now, and the western world is planning on following suit.

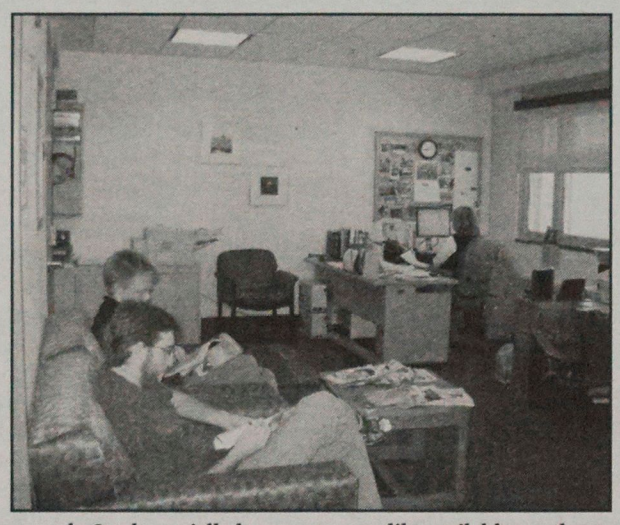
How much more invasive can advertising become? It not only reaches us in our offices, bedrooms and cars, but now it will be sent directly to our pockets. Advertising is obviously a profitable industry, and there is no reason for companies not to jump at the opportunity to flaunt their wares on the mobile scene. But there comes a point when the saturation will allow for no more solutes to dissolve in the solvent, so to speak. I know that I never look at banners on websites with anything more than contempt, and that billboards offer little more than distractions on long drives. I skip over TV commercials with Tivo or bathroom breaks and I don't go to movies that start at 7 until 7:20 to miss the trailers. In a sense, advertising has become an endless cycle — the more ads that are in the world, the less responsive consumers become to the ads, and the more ads companies need to introduce to get the same response. The cell phone is the last frontier of mass media not yet tainted by advertisements. Once it falls, the speaking billboards and auto-piloted cars of Spielberg's "Minority Report" vision of the future won't be too far off. Advertising will get even more ubiquitous than it is today. Enjoy ad-free weather while you can.

How "Common" is your office?

The powers at be would like students to believe that Ross, Wonnacott, Brainerd, Cook and Atwater are all separate but equal Commons. Yes, Wonnacott has the Gamut Room, but Ross has the Ross Fireplace Lounge. Atwater has those beautiful new suites, but Brainerd has Jewett House and two mods. Wonnacott may have a panini machine, but Cook has their own condoms. Yet while each Commons would like to assert the many ways in which they are similar, there is one area in which every Commons can be judged: the Commons office. There is no space on campus that better exemplifies the differences between the Commons than their offices. But what's in an office? Sure they all have couches and tables and Scrabble, but beyond the standard niceties, each office asserts its own personality.

Your trusty Features Editor stopped by all five Commons offices during lunchtime last week. Rather than capturing the offices at their peak of productivity, he put each office to the test, seeing how they can entertain their students when nothing is happening. All Commons Deans were out to lunch so he solicited most information for this article from the students manning the desks...

Atwater



Atwater has the newest and decidedly most posh Commons office. With magazines such as *Climbing, Runner's World, Powder, Outside* and *Vermont Life*, this office clearly prides itself on its love of the outdoors. "[Atwater Commons Coordinator Debbie Cousino] can fax things for you!" says the eager Annie Onishi '09, beaming with Atwater pride.

"Debbie is the keeper of the fax machine," Onishi adds. "You sound like someone in a Christopher Guest movie," quips Allison Levy '09, who just happened to be hanging out in the office during lunch. While all other Commons offices have that standard set of board games, Atwater goes the next step with the patented, "Closet o' Fun." Full of bocce sets, sleds and kickballs, the Closet o' Fun could keep the entire Commons satisfied at once.

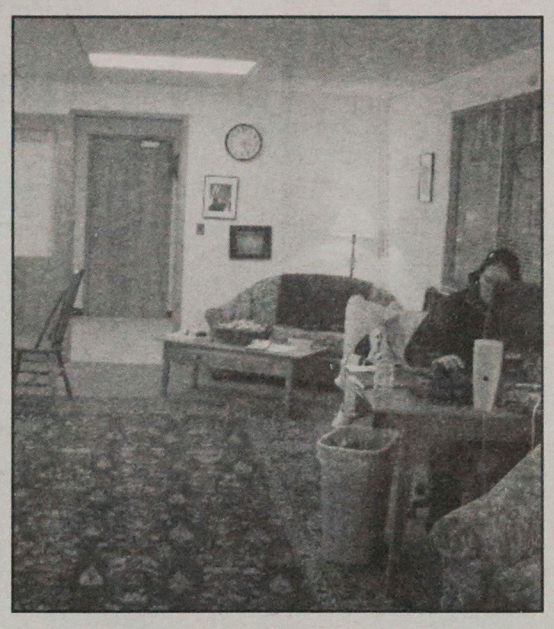
Like the Ross Commons office, the Atwater Commons office has a large conference room, and as Onishi proudly displayed, a refrigerator full of fondue cheese. Although somewhat lacking in overall candy output — only Starburst jelly beans were readily available, — the Atwater Commons office is a bright, clean cheery place. As this reporter sunk into the unrivaled plush chairs in the office, Onishi said, "You like that? That's like a hug from Atwater Commons."

Rating: 3.5 out of 5

Brainerd

Like Ross and Atwater's offices, the Brainerd Commons office lies in close proximity to a dining hall — a key to notoriety and accessibility. The Brainerd office also has a fantastic display of magazines including *Sports Illustrated, Newsweek* and *Vogue.* New student aid Charlie Fry '10.5 granted *The Campus* Internet privileges while he solved a rubix cube at the office's large table. But it's not all about Brainerd's magazines or rubix cube wielding assistants, the beauty of this office lies in the candy bowl — and what a candy bowl! King size Charleston Chews! Bowls of Skittles at every turn! Cookies in a jar! After Ross, this place was like heaven! Natural light beamed into this office, whose staff prides itself on what Fry calls, "the nicest receptionist in the world," Brainerd Commons Coordinator Karin Hall-Kolts. Brainerd is also fully equipped with pots and pans to sign out as well as its famous Brainbusters, with enough movies to satiate any J-term incubation period.

Rating: 3 out of 5



Cook

"People are always coming to hang out" at the Cook Commons office, said Cook Commons Resident Adviser Jess Horner.

The Cook Commons office is smaller than Wonnacott's office, which shares the same roof. However, it maintains a cleaner, less cluttered appearance than its neighbor.

The candy bowl was freshly filled, although the size of the bars were only the "fun size" Halloween variety. The candy size is redeemed, however, by the office's coffee table, which touts some serious press: *Rolling Stone, Glamour* and *Lucky* were among the publications not found anywhere else. The Quidditch Cup resides in the Commons office, although set atop a filing cabinet behind a door, the cup does not seem to be a point of pride for the Commons.

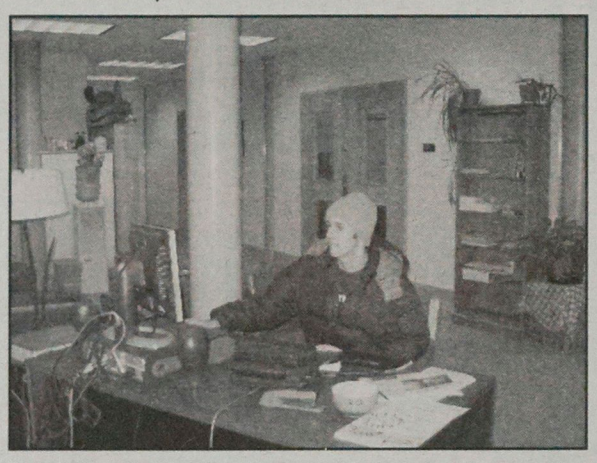
"This is what the office is all about," says Horner, proudly displaying Polaroid photographs of Israel Carr '09 and Noah Feder '09 donning humorous outfits in flattering poses. Small, but full of students even during lunch, Cook Commons does the best with a small space.

Rating: 4 out of 5

Ross

Deep in the basement of the sprawling Ross commons compound, lies the inconspicuous Ross Commons office.

"Sure, now he comes, when we haven't been to Costco in a while," says Ross Commons Coordinator Sue Harris. It is true, the Ross Commons office lacks candy. In fact, the only candy available was individually wrapped white lifesavers and a bowl of gummy bears deep within the confines of Harris' office. The magazine selection is interesting, comprised of *Entertainment Weekly, People* and *Buddhism Today.* Most impressive was the office's conference room, which was massive.



"Dean of the College Tim Spears holds a lot of meetings here," Harris noted.

Rating: 1.5 out of 5

Wonnacott

Wonnacott suffers from a lack of space, and its conference room, chill space and work space are all spread over a few square feet of couches. However, the Wonnacott Commons office fights back with some serious amenities.

"Brenda makes delightful cookies," says Keith Groggy '10, manning the desk while Brenda Fizur, Wonnacott Commons coordinator, is at lunch. That's right, Fizur makes homemade cookies. Everyday. True to Groggy's word, the cookies were delightful. If for some reason homemade cookies turn you off, Wonnacott scores major points with boxes of Girl Scout Cookies placed enticingly on the coffee table.

Wonnacott also has the only fish tank found in any Commons office, and unlike the other commons offices, Wonnacott had a board game match in progress (Connect Four). Although very small, this office exudes the feeling of home.

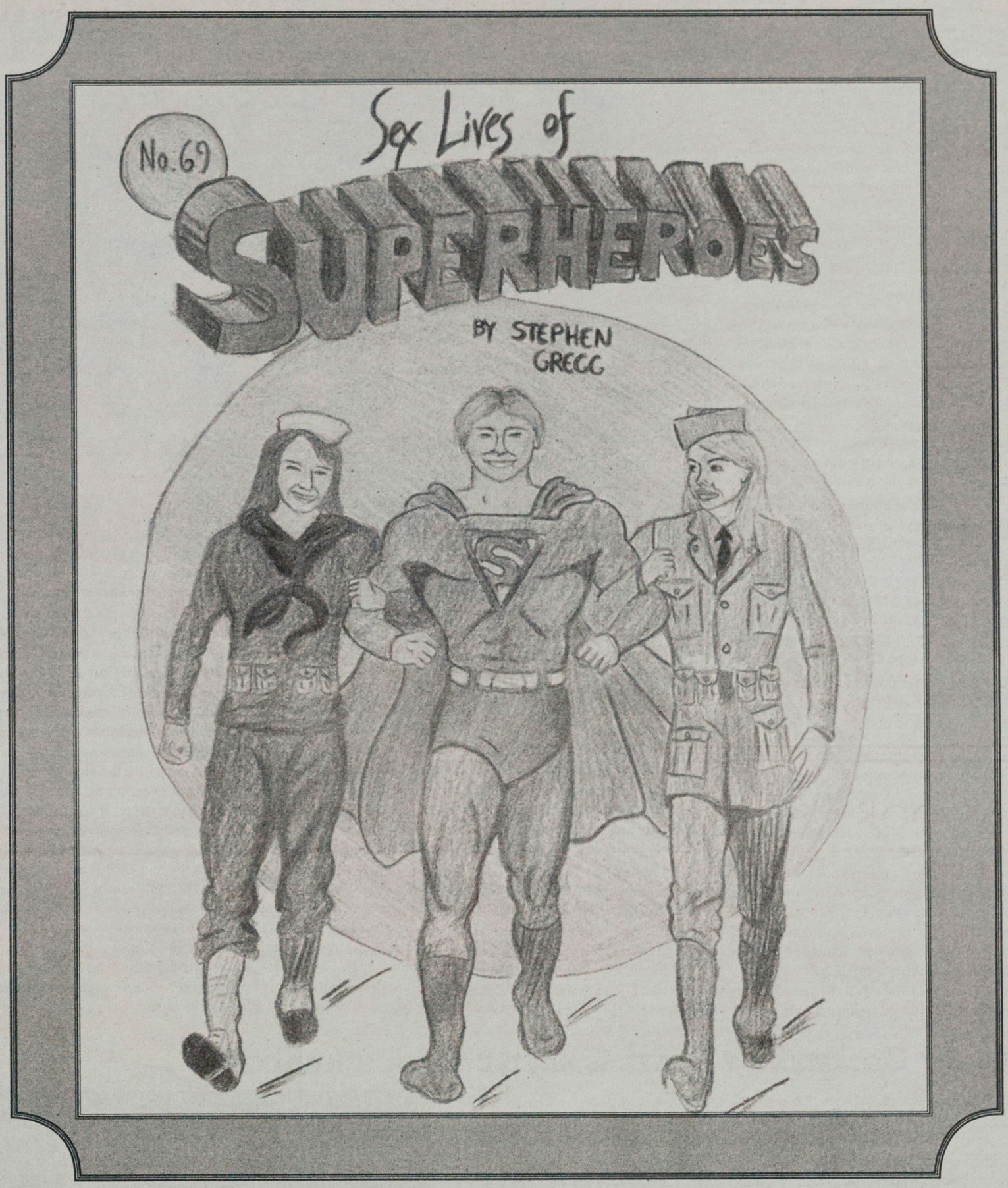
Rating: 2 out of 5

Final Word: Do plush chairs and the Closet o' Fun make for the best Commons office?

At the end of the day each Commons has its own quirks. Wonnacott is your cozy home away from home, Cook is your raucous living room, Atwater is you fancy free play pen, Brainerd is your stuffed pantry and kitchen and Ross is your conference room. However, similarities remain — when anyone in the office was asked what made the office stand out, they each replied, "Dean _____and Commons Cordinator_____."

Photography by Alicia Taylor

—Joseph Bergan, Features Editor



artwork by Samantha Collier

Sex, suspense, spandex? Senior Joe Barsalona's 700 project in acting brings to the stage the daydreams of all those who have ever felt trapped by their ordinary lives. But does this adaptation of Stephen Gregg's one-act play pack a powerful punch, or does it compare to comic kryptonite?

editors' picks

15 **Michael Chorney**
Gamut Room
9 p.m.

Michael Chorney is a revered figure in the Vermont jazz community. Involved with recent folk opera Hadestown, with Middlebury's own Anais Mitchell, Chorney is a multi-instrumentalist, composer and music director for the Middlebury dance department.

16 **Francois Clemmons**
CFA Concert Hall
8 p.m.

Performances of Irish ballads, bagpipes, fiddlers and more at the fourth annual St. Patrick's Day concert with the Alexander Twilight Artist in Residence. Clemmons encourages the audience to wear something green and come prepared to sing along.

Rocky Horror Picture Show **17**
McCullough
12 a.m.

Based on the riotous stage show born in a small studio theatre in the early 70s. Is it trashy? Yes! But it is classy trash which is most fun and enjoyable. Be sure to arrive appropriately dressed up for this seriously fun cult classic.

18 **Ingrid Filter, piano**
CFA Concert Hall 3 p.m.

Ingrid Fliter made news last season when she won the Gilmore Artist Award, bestowed every four years upon a pianist. Her Middlebury program includes works by Beethoven, Schubert (Sonata in A Major), and Chopin.

It's a bird, it's a plane, it's a theatre 700 project!

By Colin Foss
Staff Writer

Ilhan Kim

Michael drags Elenor and Lisa into his interior make-believe world of comic book characters.

It's easy to imagine that mild-mannered Michael, the main character of "Sex Lives of Superheroes," is leading a double life. On the exterior, he is a bumbling nerd who can't seem to escape his teenage infatuation with comic books, but what about his true identity? More than any other innocent alter ego, Michael seems to revel in the pride of knowing that at any moment he could slough off the mundane costume of a twenty-something bachelor and transform into a debonair, self-assured superhero. In this unlikely first issue of a comic never written, Stephen Gregg lays down the tale of what happens when normal men and women take on the forces of evil.

Through his confidant rendering of the role, Joe Barsalona '07 takes the torch of defending the meek Michael against his oppressive and tormenting ex-girlfriend Lisa, craftily interpreted by Cassidy Boyd '10. Her plot: to manipulate Michael into letting her run off with all of his possessions, including his self-esteem. His defense: a timid nature and a pathetically unrequited love. The current situation might seem grim, but things are looking up for our pathetic would-be hero. Who comes to his aide, but Elenor, an equally eccentric romance-story writer referred to Michael through a mutual psychiatrist, oddly enough.

Elenor, played by Stephanie Spencer '09, finds herself sympathizing with the poor guy's plight, and brings the audience in with her. Although this is no storybook romance, the progression of Michael and Elenor's relationship through their dysfunction is oddly endearing. "Sex Lives of Superheroes" exposes in a naïve and genuine tone the revelation phase of a budding romance, all the while conscious of the personal eccentricities each of us is hesitant to confess. Spencer wonderfully interprets Elenor's inner turmoil. What finally pushes her to see Michael as a harmless sweetie instead of an oddball case study is her avowal of a peculiar habit — re-writing romance novels to throw classic love stories into a morass of hate and fear.

Charming, isn't it? But her opinion isn't swayed so easily. Spencer injects into the dialogue a certain ambiguity that captures the essence of Elenor's dilemma, but still keeps available the option of leaving Michael to his preteen daydreams. Her involvement in his problems slowly deepens, and the unlikely connection between the two becomes tangible.

Still, Barsalona keeps Michael literally on his toes. His frantic attitude establishes itself from the minute he, clad only in his underwear, flutters onto the stage clutching an Incredible Hulk action figure. The play drifts in and out of Michael's imagination, and the audience plays a role within his fantasies of finally being recognized for his comic book trivia prowess. His neuroticism is at first disconcerting, but then becomes a part of our own identification with the loveable underdog. The role may have been cumbersome for Barsalona, but he manages to fit his body to the emotional demands of Michael.

"Michael is a very shy, nervous and awkward person," said Barsalona, commenting on his 700-level acting project, "something that I am not usually cast in due to my height. Since there was such a large challenge in developing a specific character into my every word and movement, every rehearsal was a learning process for my body and voice."

The result, however, is something light and calming, but without too much fluff. While the characters may flirt with a humorous extended metaphor steeped in the pages of *Marvel*, the situations they find themselves in and the relationships they develop are serious and strike at sober realism.

"I wanted to give the Middlebury Theatre audience something that they could gain simple enjoyment from without, to put it bluntly, doing any work," wrote Barsalona in his playbill note.

Facile entertainment is what this one-act vignette does best, but the performance, topping off at around 35 minutes, could easily slip into flightiness due to its brevity. Details and their emphasis become extremely important to give the show depth.

"My co-stars (Stephanie Spencer and Cassidy Boyd), along with our director Jordan Tirrell-Wysocki '08," said Barsalona, "spent an enormous amount of time finding places to speed up and slow down the pace in order to highlight specific moments while also making sure that we didn't cut the play too short."

Tirrell-Wysocki gives the actors enough space to develop the relationships within the play, but manages to keep the comic book motif ever-present. The air of false heroism that surrounds the play's events culminates in a triumphant final scene, where the audience almost imagines Michael moving through the last frames of the story with the look of "stay tuned next week" superimposed over his grinning face. The black box of the Hepburn Zoo provided space for set designer Claire Groby '08 to do her magic, creating the austere living situation of our humble bachelor and a sense of intimacy with the characters, who are at eye-level with the audience. "Sex Lives of Superheroes" lightens the mood of the Middlebury Theatre program with its delicate rendering of serious issues. This lends itself well to the kind of gratuitous entertainment Barsalona meant to convey and Tirrell-Wysocki subtly details. Although a successful coup against the powers of evil does not come easily even to superheroes, this play manages to bring Marvel-proportioned hope to us little people unlucky enough to live ordinary lives.

Middlebury Community Players revive 'Mockingbird'

Middlebury College is self-sufficient when it comes to the arts — students do not have to look (or walk) very far to find opportunities to attend theatrical performances. It is important to remember, however, that we are part of the larger Middlebury community, a community that spends time and effort furthering their own artistic endeavors.

The Middlebury Community Players of Addison County, VT performed a staged reading of Harper Lee's *To Kill a Mockingbird* at the A.R.T. Hannaford Career Center, with performances running the weekend of March 2 and 9. We all know the story, or at least we should. After all, no fourth-grade education is complete without a unit devoted to Lee's masterfully didactic storytelling.

Widowed lawyer Atticus Finch is raising his children, Scout and Jem, in racially divided Maycomb, Alabama during the Great Depression. Atticus represents the highest degree of what it means to be morally sound, representing a young black man falsely accused of raping a white girl, trying to be the same man at home that he is in the courtroom.

The approach to telling the story was slightly different, however. Frequent Middlebury Community Players director Joyce Huff explored a new approach to staging by having the actors keep their scripts throughout rehearsal and performance. The book was subsequently an inherent part of their characterizations. The director's notes described the book as a prop, silently supporting the unfolding story "in a seamless, dramatically effective way."

This effect of the approach was furthered by a lack of transformation of space. The only sign of small-town Southern life was a proverbial white picket fence. Ultimately there was no need for an elaborate set — the setting was successfully evoked through Lee's words, narrated to the audience in intervals by Miss Maudie, played by Barbara Andres. The feeling of community was especially intimated midway through the production when the multipurpose space went from home to courtroom, everyone doing their part to move desks, chairs and gavel.

The cast and crew of "To Kill a Mockingbird," comprised entirely of non-professional actors should be commended for accomplishing the difficult task of bringing a work of classic fiction to the stage. The three children did an especially noteworthy job, with Dill, played by D.J. Piper, often stealing the show, largely due to the fact that he was dressed up to resemble a miniature Truman Capote. While the result of the production was far from polished, it was successful in providing an arena for members of the community to tell a story with an important message. Perhaps more importantly, it was evident that they enjoyed themselves in the process.

The Players present two to four musicals, comedies, and dramas in and around Middlebury every year. Founded in 1959, the Players further encourage the theater arts by holding workshops and training sessions as well as making a commitment to young people by awarding two scholarships each year to college students with an interest in pursuing theater.

Chris Heinrich

Atticus, played by Algy Layden, comforts Scout, played by Grace Pyne, troubled by the small minded comments of fellow town members.

Lack of space hits a wrong note

By Andrew Throdahl
Arts Editor

Since the opening of the Center for the Arts (CFA) in 1992, the availability of practice space has been a perennial problem. There are currently twelve practice spaces with pianos: nine dedicated practice rooms, two classrooms, and Mead Chapel - the concert hall and its Steinway are both saved for concerts. With the increased size of the college orchestra and the department's newly created Chamber Music competition, the available practice room has become a rare item. And now the college is taking notice.

Throughout the school day one will find students waiting to get a practice room. Those who are lucky enough to get one say they are usually kicked out by an apologetic instructor, or distracted by loud neighbors heard through the thin walls. "I live in Coffrin and it's such a waste of time to come over here for nothing. The arctic weather doesn't help. And if I do get a practice room, the walls are so thin I can hear whoever is next to me. So the times when I can practice just never work out," said Marina Pravdic '10, who is currently working on the demanding Ravel Sonatine.

"The department is so pleased that the school is recognizing our problem," said Music history professor Greg Vitercik. "At the same time I don't know of any school that has adequate practice space."

Vitercik told a story of a Juilliard student who placed razor blades between piano keys to keep a practice room available. "We hope Middlebury won't come to that!" he joked.

The currently accepted solution would reconfigure cavernous classroom 221 into two floors: the first floor would remain a classroom while the second would become a continuation of the existing practice rooms.

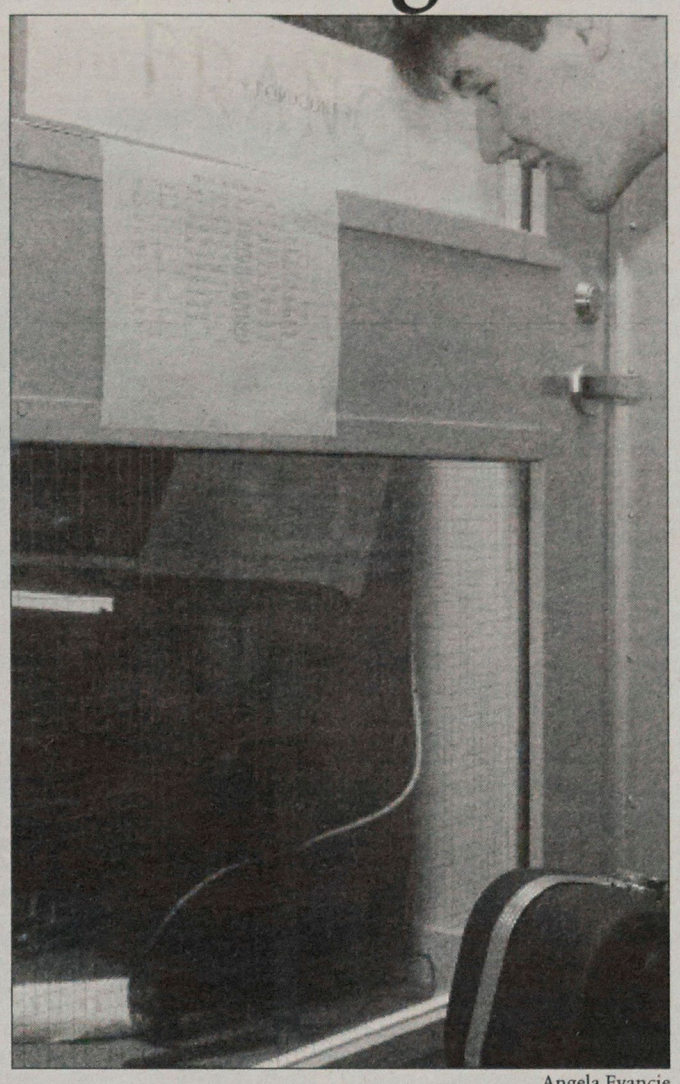
"Spare rooms would be great and hopefully we will build some in 221, however it is difficult," said professor Lei Liang.

Room 221 is not the only possible space in the CFA. Majority student opinion views the CFA as an inherently flawed building. The music library's seldom used listening rooms could potentially be transformed into small practice rooms. Vitercik commented on what appeared to be a waste of space in the expansive CFA lobby. "Few public buildings on campus have this strange dual identity that hosts both the student body and townspeople, so the CFA really needs its big lobby. That said I could imagine solving all our practice space problems with that one room."

Pravdic has more ambitious thoughts.

"I think we should have practice rooms around campus – and while they are at it, they should get some Steinways to replace these Kawai's. You can't do anything on these pianos."

Then again, the problem with Middlebury's practice space conundrum may just be a matter of time distribution. Most music students think the only time to practice is during the peak hours of the week. Professional pianist and instructor Diana Fanning says she does her five plus hours of practicing early in the morning. From personal experience, I have found that practicing late at night is the most practical, given the unavailability of pianos. Eager music students might consider altering their practice times to avoid the hectic mid-day hours.



Angela Evancie

A student musician sees no hope in sight outside occupied CFA practice room. The College plans to construct more.

Along those same lines, practice room sign-up sheets might temporarily resolve the situation, as well as add some structure to the current free-for-all taking place during the day. If the administration does plan to construct more practice rooms, hopefully they will notice related problems, such as the "sound-proof" walls, or as Pravdic hopes, the hard-actioned Kawai's.

Practice rooms or not, the music department must be content with many students' desperate need to practice . Perhaps the designers of the CFA did not anticipate the current number of student musicians in need of practice space.

Sipping on tasty Carlo Rossi

By Reid Hansen
Staff Writer

What could possibly be more enjoyable than eating a bowl of Annie's Mac & Cheese while listening to some good music on a Thursday night? Maybe some magic cookie bars, but not much else, thinks Emily Adler '07.5, manager of the Gamut Room, which is why she promises that students will be able to find more and more reasons to head down to the basement of Gifford in the coming months. As part of an effort to bring more people to the Gamut Room who don't make use of it on a regular basis, those behind the scenes of the operation are making efforts to bring in more entertainment, student-based and otherwise.

One such musical evening involved The Carlo Rossi String Band, which played last Thursday night. Members of the band included Israel Carr '09, on bass, Geordie Lynd '08 on fiddle and banjo, Kevin Brown '09 played banjo and harmonica, Josh Deane '09 was on mandolin and Will Mallett '07.5 led the band with vocals and guitar. Impressively, each member sang, though Mallett, standing in the center of the Gamut Room stage, was clearly the lead.

Chris Heinrich

The Gamut Room was treated to a foot stomping good time Thursday night.

The band's strength lay in its rigid sense of time, bright rhythms and jolly presence. Though Carlo Rossi's folk tunes maintained relatively static volumes, the songs shifted between dragging heavy tempos and fast paces. Mallett had a clean, mellow lead voice. Occasionally the band shuffled around to allow Lynd a melodic fiddle solo, or Brown a few licks on harmonica. Some of the songs featured well-executed harmonies, but the real character of Carlo Rossi appeared when the band members came together and hollered the choruses of their tunes.

Carr was especially optimistic, noting that the band had just recently officially been named the Gamut Room's house band: "We've been together for a year, under this name," Carr said, adding, "We like being called Carlo Rossi… but we'd rather drink it." The band laughed at that comment, suggesting a key character of the ensemble: the Carlo Rossi String Band isn't only about music, but also about having a good time.

When Carlo Rossi finished, Brown introduced Felix Sonny-Boy Wilson. The lights went off and Felix tuned his banjo, and then transitioned into his first song.

Obscured by shadows onstage, Felix Wilson sounded like a trio. On the banjo, Wilson frailed accurately, drumming his thumb against the instrument's body, while also finger picking and singing. His speaking voice was reminiscent of Bob Dylan reading "Last Thoughts on Woody Guthrie," and his singing had a sharp, bluesy touch, bending notes and adding a quick vibrato that tapered off the end of his words. About four songs into his set, Wilson showcased an impressive yodel, while playing a Dobro guitar and a kazoo. He sang mostly about love, but showed an interest in politics as well, again evoking long-ago Dylan recordings.

Felix seemed surprised to be playing for "academic folk." Though, late in his set he commented, "I like you, Middlebury College." Thanks, Felix. Middlebury College likes you, too.

Be sure to look for posters advertising upcoming events in the Gamut Room — or just stop in next time you're hungry.

for the record

by Emily Temple

Today's MTV mainstream is moving towards the catchy and danceable, while holding tight to — and mixing itself up with — the hip-hop and rap traditions that have been so prevalent in recent years. This kind of fare is perfect for late night dance parties and club-hopping, not to mention backdrops for perfectly scandalous music videos, but I personally am unable to stomach an entire album's worth — not to mention an entire night's worth — of Top 40 hip hop. Despite numerous Get Emily To Like Rap mix CDs, good memories of foreign spots attached to certain tracks and even a somewhat heartfelt effort on my part, I just get bored.

Gregg Gillis, aka Girl Talk, has an answer, at least for me. He creates music almost completely out of pre-existing songs by other artists, sewing samples from as many as twenty different songs into each of his tracks. This guy is a biomedical engineer by day, and you can tell: each sample is meticulously laid down to line up with the rest of the beats in a way that oftentimes sounds decidedly mathematical. Gillis even claims to use a calculator when composing his pieces.

His songs are a mishmash; he uses lots of Top 40 tracks, especially grungy hip hop and rap, plus 80s pop songs, seamlessly blended with classic alternative rock, newish indie rock and songs I don't think anyone but Gillis has ever heard of. For some it might be fun to hear radio favorites, but for someone like me, who is mindfully unexposed to such things, I wasn't totally sold on Girl Talk until I recognized a sample of Neutral Milk Hotel's "Holland, 1945" on "Minute by Minute." Like with any weekend consumption, I need to cut the rap with something a little sweeter.

Something about his composition makes even the staunch non-believer appreciative — it's like he takes the one gem of quality from each of the twenty different songs and melds them to build something spectacular. Or more to the point, he cuts off the hip-hop before I can't take it any more and replaces it with something else, Elton John, for instance. At the same time, it can get a little tiring; the novelty wears off when you're not actually dancing to it, and the pounding backbone actually makes me a little bit sick to my stomach. There's also the stigma of the mash-up; and although Gillis's brand is much more eloquently executed than most, he's still playing the dance club DJ role.

He also has to fight against the snobbery of many of his fans, or potential fans. In an interview with Pitchfork, he said, "It's funny when you're pushing it on this Pitchfork crowd and all of a sudden I'm presenting these songs that people are supposed to hate for whatever reason. The whole point of not liking something is being defensive because you're scared of not being cool." Well, I'm not sure. There are some songs that people are supposed to hate because they're, well, bad. But, and I think this is in a way what Gillis is getting at, a song being bad doesn't necessarily mean it's not fun to dance to, and therefore doesn't mean it is valueless. And bad dance songs are admittedly much more fun in context than a traditionally good song would be. It all depends. But I reject the concept that the only reason not to like something because one is scared of being uncool. Obviously that happens, but come on, "My Humps?" That's not sonic quality.

There's some question as to the legality of sampling at all. Supposedly it's acceptable if the borrowed section is completely re-contextualized, and there's something else about a certain percentage that has to be new, but Gillis doesn't seem overly worried. After all, the name of his label is Illegal Art. U.S. Representative Mike Doyle brought up Girl Talk in a congressional hearing last Wednesday during a discussion of digital copyright issues to suggest that perhaps some ownership laws are being made obsolete by the evolution of the art form, but there's always a certain amount of subversive glee in creating and supporting illegal art. Gillis, however, has said that even if he did receive a cease-and-desist letter, he would continue to make music, and just switch to giving it out for free. After all, he has a day job.

'The Family Guy' writer inspires audience

Midd alum is unscripted on the ins and outs of the Hollywood industry

By Melissa Marshall
Arts Editor

"Thanks for saving me from a career in Wall Street," reads a note attached to a poster advertising the 2003 action thriller "Out of Time." The poster hangs outside the office of Don Mitchell, lecturer in English and Film and Media Culture, and Dave Collard '94 is not the only one grateful to Mitchell. In fact, college dorms across the country are appreciative that Collard is writing toilet humor for animated characters instead of crunching numbers in Dockers and a tie.

Best known for his two and a half season stint as a staff writer for Fox's animated comedy "The Family Guy," Collard traded the tropical warmth of Los Angeles for the frigid weather of his alma mater in order to give a talk to screenwriter hopefuls and pop-culture junkies alike last Sunday evening.

I'm not going to lie and say that it's easy. But if there's nothing else pulling you, I say do it.

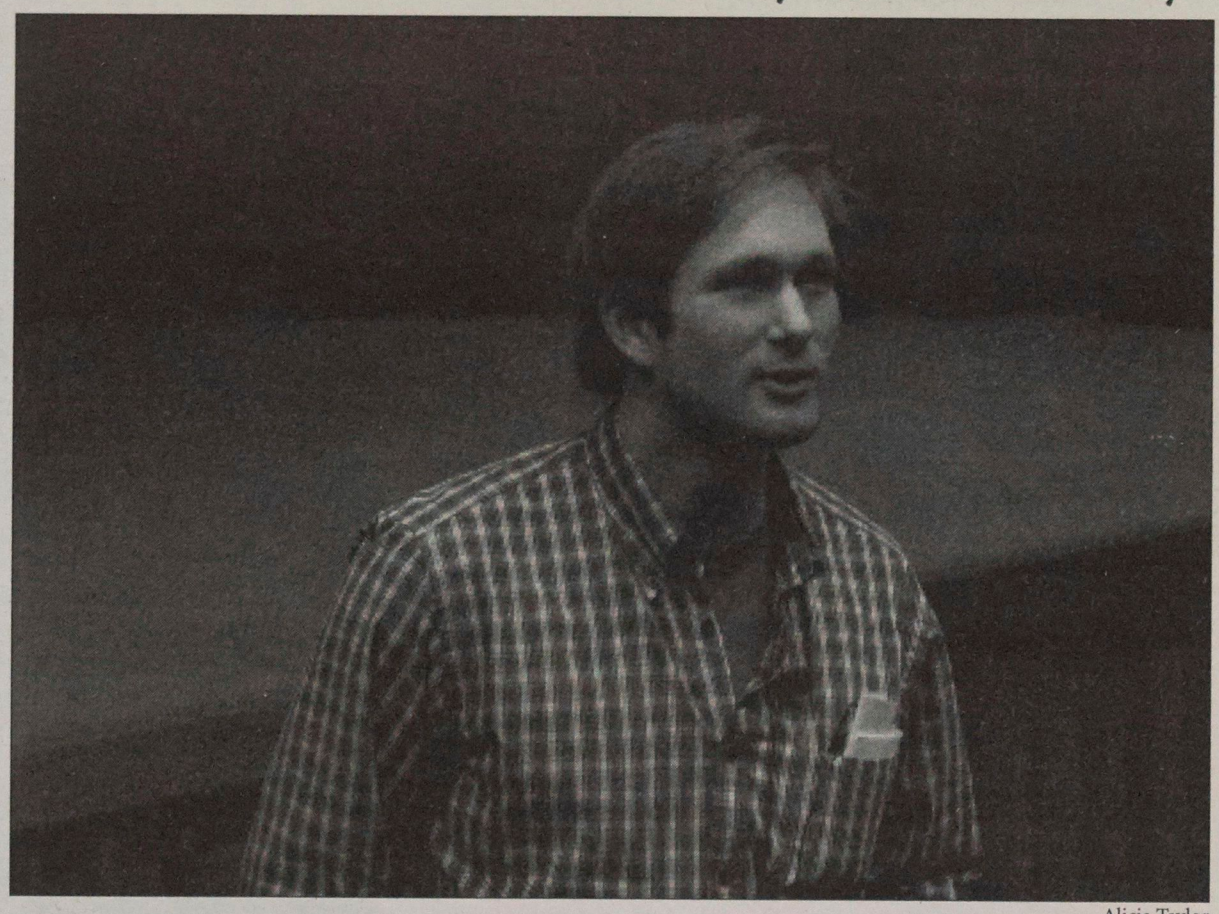
Collard immediately put Dana Auditorium at ease with his casual attire and even more relaxed attitude, reminding students that a benefit of a liberal arts education is "the opportunity to have a happy accident," even if that accident is a career path more stigmatized than the dreaded English major.

Collard, who first discovered the possibility of screenwriting in a book while shopping for his economic class, demystified a field that seems harder to gain access to than the Freemasons.

"I'm not going to lie and say that it's easy. But if there's nothing else pulling you, I say do it," said Collard. "If there's something else you're just as interested in, go do that, it'll be easier. There are a lot of days I hate my job, but I can't imagine myself doing anything else. I guess even Ben and Jerry's ice cream tasters get tired of their job some days."

His focus on maintaining realistic expectations continued throughout his talk as he even underplayed the ideal of complete freedom in creative expression, drawing examples from the numerous changes made to his scripts for "Out of Time" and the 2006 military drama "Annapolis."

"I had originally planned for 'Out of Time' to be set in Buffalo, write what you know, but they immediately changed it to Miami," said Collard. "Nobody wants to see a movie set in Buffalo, even people who live in Buffalo."



Alicia Taylor

Dave Collard '94 offered words of warning as well as comfort to an auditorium full of aspiring screenwriters.

Collard continued to outline the life of a screenwriter, the depiction becoming less glamorous with every reference to unappreciative actors, intense competition and compromised creative control.

"Right now, I sell out. That's my job," said Collard, displaying an honesty that defined his presentation.

Earlier in his talk, he fielded a question from his mentor Mitchell concerning the socio-economic hypocrisy of mainstream values presented in "The Family Guy," responding, "That's more on Seth McFarland [the show's producer]. I don't know, my favorite joke was the fart-box."

Despite some of the negative aspects he broached, Collard encouraged aspiring writers further, even offering to act as patron to some. "Have any good ideas for a thriller?" asked Collard. "I'll take down names and hand out checks. I'm serious."

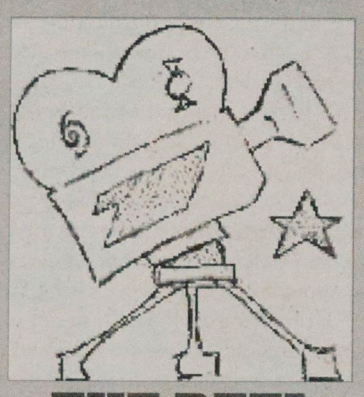
While Collard did show the 2001 episode of "The Family Guy" titled "Screwed the Pooch" as well as a ten minute clip from "Out of Time," he delivered a presentation structured more like a question and answer session than a lecture, seeming more interested in hearing students' voices than his own.

And students did not hesitate to call on Collard for advice, gaining valuable insight into the inner-workings of the Hollywood industry.

"I've been pretty interested in screenwriting for a while, but I did not know a lot on the technical end," said Peter Hoffman '10. "I found it interesting how often the script was altered. Whether it is through the communal effort of television writing or the administrative decisions in the film world, it is surprising to see how much a script differs from its original conception."

Through a mix of humor, honesty and candid storytelling, Collard's informal lecture shed light on a profession shrouded by uncertainty.

"Dave Collard's talk was enlightening in the way that so many of the visits by successful alums are: it offered some perspective on what it means to go out into the 'real world' and try out one's dreams," said Astri von Arbin Ahlander '07. "Even though Dave was realistic about the poor odds for succeeding as a writer in Hollywood, his encouragement and the example he himself has set serves as inspiration to go out there and give the impossible a try."



THE REEL CRITIC

by Josh Wessler

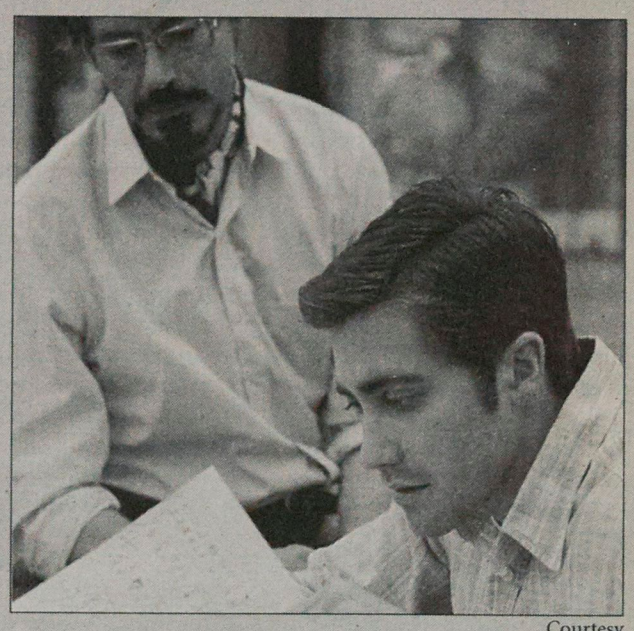
MOVIE | Zodiac
DIRECTOR | David Fincher
STARRING | Robert Downey Jr., Jake Gyllenhaal and Anthony Edwards

People from outside of California might not fully grasp the impact of the real life Zodiac, the murderous antagonist of the startling new film "Zodiac." For many decades, beginning in the late 1960s, the quixotic serial killer shrouded the coast in uneasiness with a spate of homicides. But the Zodiac took it a step further. He cornered the media to publish his coded messages and anonymous confessions. People could eat breakfast and play his sadistic game, trying to break the cipher and uncover his next move. Paranoid programming like "Cops" and "America's Most Wanted" are the unfortunate legacies of his fantasies. "Zodiac" reexamines the crime genre by forcing us to confront our obsession with violence. It's almost painful that this movie is so enjoyable to watch.

Caught in this maelstrom was the San Francisco Police Department, trying to negotiate a maze of jurisdiction, and the staff of the *San Francisco Chronicle*, trying to simultaneously sell more newspapers and meet Zodiac's demands to print his ciphers. But what good is a newspaper without a squad of wannabe Dirty Harrys? Among those thrill-seekers was Robert Graysmith (Jake Gyllenhaal), a young, reserved widower, father of two, who became intimately attached to the Zodiac case. As the case against the killer began to unravel, Graysmith follows suit, and "Zodiac" gets really interesting. Director David Fincher ("Alien," "Se7en," "Fight Club") has crafted another gem, though his style is more muted in his latest crime saga. He uses a very distinct color tone that washes over each scene — his films are pleasing just to look at. Fascinated by places, he spends a lot of time examining cityscapes alienated from an idyllic nature. Early in "Zodiac," Fincher takes us to a dreamy, over-lit pasture, only to rip it away and toss us back into the shadows and filth of the city.

Clearly Fincher did well for himself with "Fight Club," since anyone who used to be someone is in "Zodiac." Lee Norris of "Boy Meets World" fame (remember Minkus?) is 25, looks 12 and can only manage a bit part. Anthony Edwards, known to "E.R." fans as Dr. Greene, has a prominent but unchallenging role as one of the leading detectives. And, of course, Robert Downey Jr. continues to play himself — a cynical, pill-popping boozer who writes the editorial column for the Chronicle. But, as is his style, Downey is completely on target. He gives the movie's best performance in front of a loaded field while a close second is Marc Ruffalo playing a frayed cop.

Gyllenhaal is always likeable, but he suffers because his character's place in the film is not fully developed. Though the movie is based on Graysmith's book "Zodiac," Graysmith and the book do not emerge as the central narrative until midway or later. Fincher toys with us by refusing to favor any of the prime characters, but the movie's structure eventually begins to unravel. Graysmith begins to receive anonymous calls as he edges closer to the Zodiac's identity, but he seems un-phased. He is detached in part because his character skims along the line between author of the book "Zodiac" and cartoonist pretending to be a detective. These roles imply different things: one says he is the objective narrator while the other portrays him as another flawed character. The tension finally reaches an unforgettable climax when he foolishly decides to pursue a lead by himself — the scene that follows is among the best Fincher has ever crafted.



Courtesy

"Zodiac" has the delicious, pulpy feel of a "Law and Order" episode that never shifts to the "Law" portion of the show. Yet, it is hard to file it away as a thriller. The central story is about the cops and the media while the Zodiac is not as much a physical threat to them as an idea, growing larger in their imaginations. This is the real pleasure of the movie: watching the Zodiac curl his fingers into the psyches and nightmares of those dedicated to catching him.

This is a fitting resurrection for Fincher, who went backwards with "Panic Room" in 2002 after the outstanding "Fight Club" in 1999. Though "Zodiac" is not his masterpiece, he leaves us hope that neither was "Fight Club." He effortlessly manages a twisting plot, and knows how to alternately raise and release an audience's anxiety — a master puppeteer handling his dolls.

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INSIDE THE LOCKER ROOM

If you are walking around campus and hear someone yell, "Stoner!" you may be surprised to see a girl in a skirt, carrying tennis gear, turn around.

Elizabeth Stone '09, is affectionately known as "Stoner" not only because of her last name, but also for being a bedrock of talent on the women's tennis team.

The junior from Cohasset, Mass. shone in her opening match of the spring season over the weekend. The Panthers hosted Brandeis and N.Y.U. on Sunday and sent both teams home with losses, sweeping Brandeis nine to zero and defeating N.Y.U. eight to one.

Stone and teammate Elizabeth Emery '09 won their number two doubles match 8-0 against Brandeis, and Stone kept it rolling into her number two singles match later that morning, winning 7-5, 6-3. Coach Mike Morgan said that Stone, "fought her way" through her singles match against Brandeis' Ana Katz. Stone continued to fight that afternoon at the number three singles spot, defeating N.Y.U.'s Meggie Smith 6-0, 6-0.

With both fall and spring seasons and only nine players, the women's tennis team is a tight knit group. Captain Amy Roche '07 has gotten to know Stone over the past three seasons, while her hallmate Alice Demmerle '10 has only had the opportunity to know Stone over the last seven months. Will teammate Roche serve it up or will hallmate Demmerle make her feel the Hep-burn?

Elizabeth Stone serves as this week's athlete

	Stone	Roche	Demmerle
Who has the scariest serve on the women's tennis team?	Clare Burke.	Clare. (1)	Clare. (1)
What is your second favorite country-club sport?	Golf.	Golf. (1)	Golf. (1)
Which professional tennis player do you aspire to be like?	Jennifer Capriati.	None. (0)	Serena Williams. (0)
What is your favorite kind of cereal?	Honey Bunches of Oats.	Smart Start. (0)	Chex. (0)
Growing up, what was your favorite Nickelodeon show?	Hey Arnold.	Doug. (0)	Hey Arnold. (1)
Singles or doubles?	Doubles.	Doubles. (1)	Doubles. (1)
Which team do you think will win the NCAA tournament?	Kansas.	Duke. (0)	Kansas. (1)
final score		3	5

Having known Stone for more than twice as long, Roche's loss shows some impressive familiarity on Demmerle's part. Even though she's not on the tennis team, Demmerle still knows Clare Burke '09 has the scariest serve, and that Stone prefers doubles to singles.

Speaking of singles, when asked which is the best-looking male sports team at Middlebury, all three responded, "Men's Lacrosse." Both teams hosted impressive wins on Sunday, and it appears both men's lacrosse and women's tennis are looking good going into the spring season.

When presented with the question of what cereal Stone loves, neither Demmerle nor Roche could milk the question, but they both agree in five years she will be living in New York City, probably working on Wall Street.

While she's still around Middlebury, Stone can be seen at her favorite restaurant, Storm Café. But she and the rest of the women's tennis team hope for no storms during their spring break trip to Hilton Head, S.C. where they will face S.E. Missouri State, Whitworth, Depauw and Missouri-St. Louis.

—Brooke Farquhar, Sports Editor

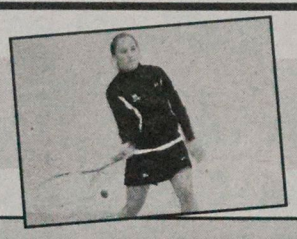
PANTHER SCOREBOARD

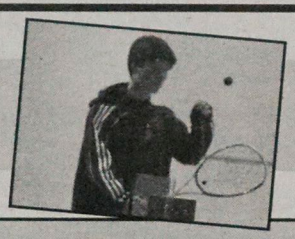
Date	Sport	Vs.	Results	Comments
Mar. 7-10	Skiing	NCAA Campionships	6th	Andrew Wagner '09 and Mattie Ford '09 are named 2007 All-American skiiers.
Mar. 9	Women's Hockey	Manhattanville	3-1 W	Panthers secure their fourth consecutive trip to the NCAA semifinals before a record crowd of 755 people.
Mar. 7	Men's Hockey	Fredonia	9-0 W	Eight different Panthers scored goals. Defenseman Ian Drummond '09 had a short-handed goal and a 5-on-3 PP goal.
Mar. 10	Men's Hockey	UMass-Dartmouth	3-2 W	Coach Bill Beaney wins his 400th career game as Panther's head coach. In his 19th season, Beaney's record is now 400-112-27.
Mar. 11	Men's Lacrosse	Stevens Inst.	7-5 W	Nick Bastis '07 led the Panthers with two goals, while Tom Petty '09 scored the game-winner with 5:45 to go.

BY THE NUMBERS

6	Shots on goal for the Fredonia men's hockey team on March 7 against Middlebury, which set the NCAA D-III record for fewest shots in a Tournament game.
6	Middlebury defensemen to score goals against Fredonia in the Panthers' 9-0 victory on March 7.
16-0	Record of the women's hockey team for games in which they have scored first. Their three losses and two ties have come in games in which their opponents have scored first.
6	Straight games and counting in which Shannon Tarrant '07 has scored at least one point. She has tallied four goals and three assists during the streak.
17	Straight games and counting in which the women's hockey team has had someone named Shannon score at least one point.

Editors' Picks





Questions of the week	Brooke Farquhar	Simon Keyes	Jeff Patterson
Who will have more shots on goal in their respective Frozen Four NCAA Tournaments, men's or women's hockey?	MEN'S HOCKEY The men have had 1031 shots on goal compared to the women's 1001. While both teams are over 1000, I'll go with the men.	WOMEN'S HOCKEY They will have more crowd support. Plattsburgh is two hours away. I would not even want to start driving to Wisconsin.	MEN'S HOCKEY With Sales, Sullivan, Saidachev and Shirreffs, I forsee sixty-six shots on goal on both Saturday and Sunday for the Panthers.
Who will score more goals against the Connecticut College Camels this weekend, men's or women's lacrosse?	WOMEN'S LACROSSE The Panthers will be ready to set the tone for their season with lots of goals in their opening game against the Camels.	WOMEN'S LACROSSE This team averaged 15 goals a game last year while the men averaged 10 goals. I can't really give any other good reason.	WOMEN'S LACROSSE Katie and Carrie Sparkes will spark a ferocious attack, lighting up the Camels. They'll be far enough from any smoke detectors too.
Who will win the NCAA Basketball Tournament?	OHIO STATE He claims he hasn't thought about next year yet, but freshman Greg Oden wants to win at least one title before going to the NBA.	UNC Wearing a face mask brings luck. Rip Hamilton won a title for the Detroit Pistons in one, now masked-man Tyler Hansbrough will do the same.	UNC The Tar Heels are a shoe-in for the Final Four. I'll take my chances from there especially with Roy Williams calling the plays from the Carolina Blue bench.
Which team will score the most points in the first-round of the NCAA Basketball Tournament?	FLORIDA Joakim Noah will make it rain on Jackson State. With a .314 shooting percentage, the Tigers' arc-attack won't keep them afloat.	KANSAS The play-in game between Niagara and Florida A&M is only to see who will be spanked around by the overall No. 1 seed.	TENNESSEE Chris Lofton will steal the show, just like Kenny Lofton did while playing in the Show.
Which team will score the fewest points in the first-round of the NCAA Basketball Tournament?	CENTRAL CONNECTICUT STATE If you combined every player on both teams to create a "Roster Monster," Ohio State would have an advantage of 14 feet 5 inches and 576 pounds on CCSU.	PENNSYLVANIA High standardized test scores be damned. 2400s wont save this years Ivy League representative from Texas A&M's Acie Law IV and company. I can't wait to see this one.	TEXAS A&M CORPUS CHRISTI Wisconsin will win the game by scoring 40 points. That means the Islanders will score even less. Think of a hockey score.
Record	**2-2 (.500)**	**3-4 (.429)**	**22-20 (.524)**

Panther skiers claw their way to sixth at NCAAs

By Anna Furney
Staff Writer

Andrew Wagner '09 took full advantage of this year's NCAA Championships. While it is only his second year on the alpine squad, "Billy," as so many of his teammates call him, achieved All-American status in both the men's slalom and the men's giant slalom disciplines. He and Mattie Ford '09, who finished in eighth place in the women's slalom and earned All-American status, highlighted the week's events for the College's ski team.

Wagner and his other nine qualified teammates finished the week's grueling competition tied for sixth place with the University of New Mexico. The 2007 competition ended with fellow East Coast team Dartmouth as the overall champions, followed by the University of Denver, the University of Colorado and the University of Utah. The University of Vermont settled for fifth.

Just qualifying for the NCAA Championships is in itself no small task. Each athlete must finish consistently well enough at each Eastern college's carnival to qualify for the Championships. Only then can they vie for the coveted top-10 finish that rewards All-American status. Not only did Middlebury qualify a full team of six alpine athletes, but it also sent a group of four athletes from the Nordic side.

The week's racing commenced on March 7 at the University of New Hampshire's Jackson Cross Country trails with the men's 10K and women's 5K freestyle events. Cassidy Edwards '09 and Jenny Hamilton '07 took home 17th and 20th with times of 15:01.9 and 15:08.5. Their finishes, while individually strong, could not make up for the short-sided team, and they placed 10th as a team. On the men's side in the 10K, Simi Hamilton '09 finished exceptionally well, grabbing seventh position with a time of 26:08.2. Teammate Tim Reynolds '09 finished in 29th place with a finish time of 27:33.1. These two finishes earned the men's team a cumulative score of 44.0 points for the day's efforts, enough to edge them into seventh place overall.

The alpine events on March 8 proved to be exciting for spectators and teammates alike. While the overcast weather and cold temperatures made for a chilling start to the day's giant slalom runs, the team's three male representatives were successful. Starting with bib number one, Wagner came in fourth, with a cumulative two-run time of 2:22.33. Alec Tarberry '08 followed in 15th with a time of 2:23.95. Clayton Reed '08, who experienced some trouble in the first run and could not salvage his overall score, finished 35th at 3:00.85.

For the women, Captain Lindsay Brush '07 led the female finishers with a time of 2:34.63, which proved fast enough for 13th. The team's other competitors, Ford and Dorothy Muirhead '08 concluded their days in the 25th and 31st positions, respectively.

Friday's 15K classic races saw more strong performances by the Middlebury Nordic team. Jenny Hamilton was the team's first finisher, placing 15th with a time of 50:44.6. Edwards, who came in with the time of 53:15.3, placed 31st. For the men in the 20K, Simi Hamilton finished in 23rd. Reynolds crossed the finish in 31st place. The combined scores placed the women in 12th and the men in 13th.

The week's final events were the men's and women's slalom races.

Jeff Patterson
Mattie Ford '09 earned All-American honors in the women's slalom by finishing in eighth.

"It was my goal to be an All-American this year, so after the GS the pressure was off, and I was able to really enjoy the slalom without getting nervous," said Wagner.

Wagner's approach proved to be one of champions, as he finished an exciting week with a second All-American title, capturing the bronze medal with the finish time of 1:43.55 — only .19 seconds behind the 1:43:36 of the day's winner and U.S. Ski Team alumnus, Adam Cole of the University of Denver.

The slalom was a success for the Middlebury women's team as well. Ford, like Wagner in the GS, drew bib number one and held onto her position as one of the top-fifteen racers within the day's pool by finishing the day in eighth.

Although happy for Ford, Brush lamented her 27th-place finish in the slalom. "It was a bittersweet ending for me," she said. "I was a bit disappointed with my results. Yet, all in all, I was happy to be there with all my friends and family supporting me and my teammates."

The enormous effort made by all 10 team members was a success in itself. Individual results from Wagner and Ford were icing on top of the team's mountainous cake of success.

Tennis team tans and trains on their terrific trip

Continued from page 24

a match day, we might have a light practice in the morning and play in the afternoon."

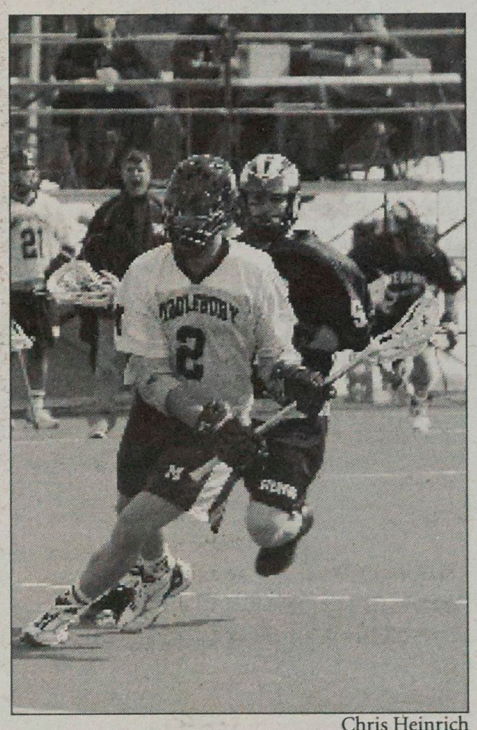
Led by Co-Captains Amy Roche '07 and Emily Holick '07, the Panthers will serve it up against Southeastern Missouri State, Whitworth, Depauw, and Missouri-St. Louis.

Men's tennis, on the other hand, will be on the west coast for spring break. They have matches scheduled in Claremont, Calif. against Pomona-Pitzer, Chapman, Azusa Pacific, Fresno Pacific, CalTech and Redlands. With regards to the matches, Captain Kevin Bergesen '07 has one regret.

"Unfortunately we will not be able to play either Claremont or Santa Cruz, two of the top teams in the country, because our break is later this year than last," he said.

Although they play a hectic schedule, men's tennis seems to have one of the few team trips with room for leisure.

"On days off, we practice in the morning and then maybe play volleyball on the beach or hang out in Santa Monica in the afternoon," Bergeson confessed.



Chris Heinrich
Men's lax plays Washington & Lee March 28.

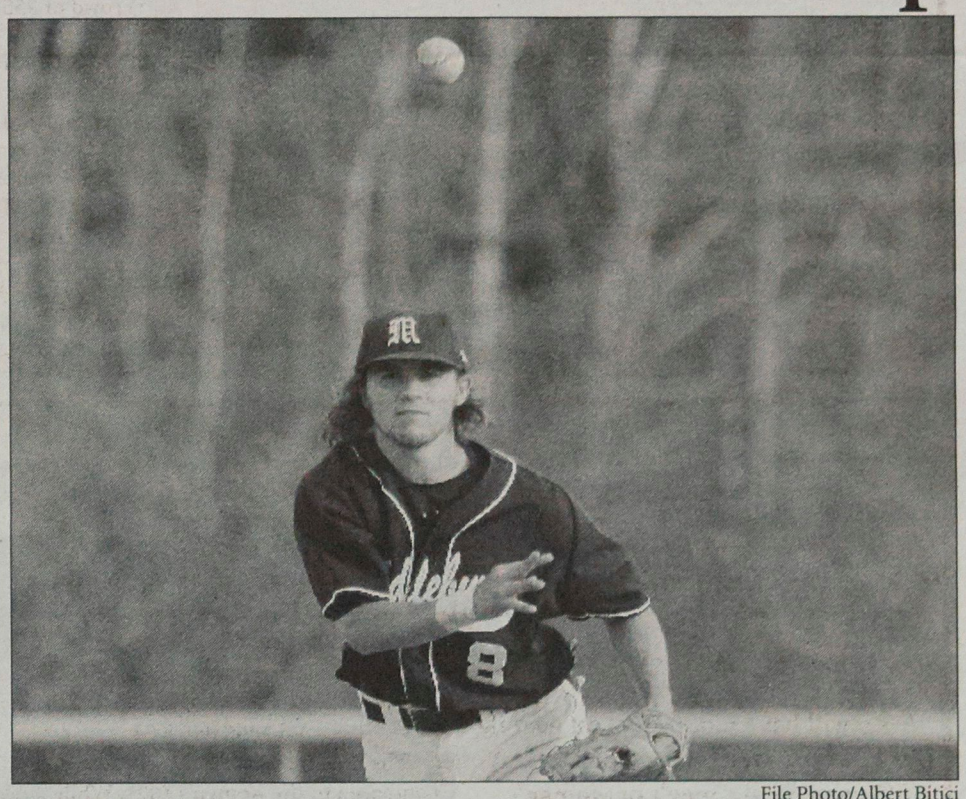
Speaking of good times, men's golf will be going to historic Pinehurst, N.C. Harry Bane '08.5 is hopeful that Middlebury will secure tee times at Numbers 4 & 8 Pinehurst, Old North State and the Country Club of North Carolina. However, Bane can only rate the team's chances of stepping on the prestigious No. 2 course as "about 50-50 right now." No. 2, designed by renowned architect Donald Ross, opened in 1907 and has been the venue of just about every important professional event, from the '36 PGA Championship to the '51 Ryder Cup, to the '05 U.S. Open. Men's golf will compete in an intrasquad competition affectionately known as the Middlebury Amateur Championship. Bane said that the tournament "is both stroke and match play and allows us to get a sense of how the team is shaping up."

The women's team is headed to a golf haven of its own in Edisto Island, S.C. Like the men, the women will spend nine days on the links, fine-tuning their swings in preparation for competition back in New England. Captain Heather Gallagher '07 noted that each member of the women's team will play close to two hundred holes over the course of the week. In terms of the schedule itself, Gallagher said, "We will play and practice every day and play in a match against the University of Charleston on March 30."

Despite the varied excursions that Middlebury's athletes will embark upon for their spring breaks, track and field Captain Beth Butler '07 has lobbied hard for the team's trip to California to be considered the best among the spring sports. She believes it is the perfect combination of training and leisure. The team will be racing, throwing and jumping "at the scenic, oceanfront Point Loma track for two invitationals on March 24 and March 31."

"The team trains at the track from around 7 a.m. until the sun becomes too intense," she said. "After practice, most of us hit the beach for a tan or a game of ultimate. In the afternoons, we have another practice at the track, a lift in the gym or a run along the boardwalk."

However, for Butler it is the quirks of the men's and women's track and field trip that make it worthwhile. In the past, "the team has gone paintballing, surfing and hiking around the San Diego area," she said. "Others choose to visit Balboa Park, downtown San Diego or Sea World."



File Photo/Albert Bitici
Second baseman Gabe Broughton '08 and the baseball team will play eight games in Arizona.

Even though Middlebury will be competing against many other Division III schools in Point Loma, the most heated contests on the trip do not take place at the track. Just as at Middlebury, eating competitions take place at Kono's Surf Club Café, bringing out the best in our student-athletes. The challenge is to see who can finish "Big Breakfast #1" which includes pancakes, French toast, bacon, eggs and hash browns. Butler explained that she hopes to achieve this noteworthy feat for the first time before graduating in May.

Unfortunately, not every spring team at Middlebury has the luxury of taking a high-priced trip to the golf capital of the United States, SoCal or the winter home of the Boston Red Sox. Middlebury's two most prominent club sports teams, rugby and Ultimate Frisbee, nevertheless plan to have productive and fun breaks.

Rugby will stay on campus during the break, and Will Surrette '10 said the team will "lift, run and practice in preparation for nationals in April."

The Frisbee team, on the other hand, is headed off on its annual epic road trip as soon as classes get out on March 23. Middlebury will play in tournaments in Charleston, S.C, Wilmington, N.C. and Tybee Island, Ga.

Lastly, men's and women's lacrosse will not be going on spring break trips because they are to play their schedule as though classes were in session. Men's lacrosse, coached by Dave Campbell '00, will play a NESCAC game against Bowdoin at Kohn Field before trekking down to Washington & Lee in Virginia and then back up to Maine to face another NESCAC foe, Colby.

Missy Foote's women's lacrosse team will be even busier, playing four games. They will travel to Maine to play Bowdoin, Maryland to play Salisbury and Pennsylvania to play Gettysburg, before wrapping up their spring break at home against Colby on March 31.

As Told by A.S.

By Andrew Schlegel

It has been a long time since Georgetown was considered a basketball powerhouse. In the 1980s, led by Hall of Fame Coach John Thompson and stars like Patrick Ewing, the Hoyas captured Big East title after Big East title, cutting down the nets six times.

Now it finally seems fair to say that the present-day Hoyas resemble the successful teams of the past. They are coached by Thompson's son, John III, and get a consistent contribution from Patrick Ewing Jr.

They also have the integral interior presence consistent with Georgetown's past. Rather than Ewing, Alonzo Mourning or Dikembe Mutumbo lining up in the post, seven-foot, two-inch, 278 pound big-man Roy Hibbert does it for the Hoyas.

The current team may be younger than most, with only one senior on its roster, but they are still my pick to win this year's NCAA tournament. Most of the young players already have valuable postseason experience, especially after making a Sweet Sixteen run last year, when they gave eventual National Champion Florida its toughest test of the tournament.

Coupled with their maturing talent, the Hoyas are surely a team no one wants to play. First-team All-Big East selection Jeff Green can play almost any position and his quickness makes him a tough match-up for anyone. He has also proven himself capable of taking over the big games as well as making big shots. Don't be fooled by his 14.3 points-per-game scoring average — he put up totals of 30 and 21 in his last two games.

Thompson III, who coached at Princeton before taking on the duty of giving pre-game speeches to the Hoyas, was recently quoted as saying that Green was, "the smartest basketball player he has ever coached." That's really saying something when you consider the types of players both schools recruit.

After winning the Big East Tournament, which had five other teams that later qualified for the NCAA Tournament, the Hoyas are well prepared for the Dance. They did not just win the league championship, they did it with authority, blowing out Pittsburgh by 23 points in the finals.

For the most part, the Hoyas dominated at Madison Square Garden, but when facing a talented Notre Dame team in the semifinals, they proved they can also win the close games. Georgetown had to dig deep to come up with the 84-82 victory over the Fighting Irish for the rights to play Pitt in the finals.

Although they lost to their tough out of conference competition, the Oregon Ducks and the Duke Blue Devils, those games were early in the season and now, the Hoyas are a far different team.

The NCAA tournament begins in earnest on Thursday and the Hoyas will be a team that no one will want to meet. Georgetown will start with Belmont in Winston-Salem, N.C. This should be no contest and over before the first half is over.

By the Final Four, the games will be tougher, but the Hoya stars will carry them to a National Championship for the first time since 1984.

Women set for season after sweep

By Maeve McGilloway
Staff Writer

The women's tennis team opened their spring 2007 season by defeating Brandeis and New York University (NYU) by scores of 9-0 and 8-1, respectively.

"It could not have been a better start to the season," said Co-Captain Emily Holick '07, who teamed up with doubles partner Clare Burke '09 to beat Brandeis' number three doubles team and NYU's number two pair.

Just as they had done last season, the Panthers blanked Brandeis. This time around, however, Middlebury as a team surrendered only 20 games, 16 less than they did last year.

Even though NYU also outplayed Brandeis (their conference rival) on Saturday afternoon, winning eight out of their nine matches, Violets' Coach Horace Choy knew that playing Middlebury would be a challenge. On Saturday he explained that he was well aware he would be up against what he called, "a very tough Middlebury team."

Chris Heinrich
Claire Smyser '08 lets go a serve while partner Amy Roche '07 awaits a return in ready position.

The Panthers came out victorious, beating NYU 8-1 and winning all but one singles match, which was lost in a tiebreaker. They were able to stop the Violets' three-game winning streak.

Co-Captain Amy Roche '07 played against NYU's Stephanie Tu in first singles. She continued to prove her finesse and talent by successfully defeating Tu, only giving up two games in the second set, 6-0, 6-2.

Holick played just as impressively in her singles match against Katie Lee winning by the idential 6-0, 6-2 score.

"We out-competed our opponents in every way," said Holick.

The Panthers gave up only one match out of the 18 played. After the first weekend of competition, Coach Mike Morgan seems to have effectively prepared his team.

No one can complain about the eye-opening results from this season opener.

"At this point so early on," said Haar '10, who went 2-0 over the weekend, "we're in a great place."

Cellino's late goal seals a Plattsburgh trip

Continued from page 24

Clearly fired up following the first intermission, the Panthers again came out firing on all cylinders at the start of the second period. Middlebury finally cracked Manhattanville goalie Karine Turmel at the 11:36 mark.

With the Panthers up one skater after a Manhattanville penalty, a slap shot from the point by Shannon Tarrant '07 caromed off the right post. Abby Kurtz-Phelan '07 scooped up the puck and fed it back to Tarrant, who fired another slap shot from nearly the same spot on the ice. This time, Tarrant would not be denied, as she lit the lamp for the first score of the game.

The assist by Kurtz-Phelan was her 100th career point, making her the third Panther to garner that accolade this season. Fellow seniors Tarrant and Sylvester accomplished the same feat earlier in the season.

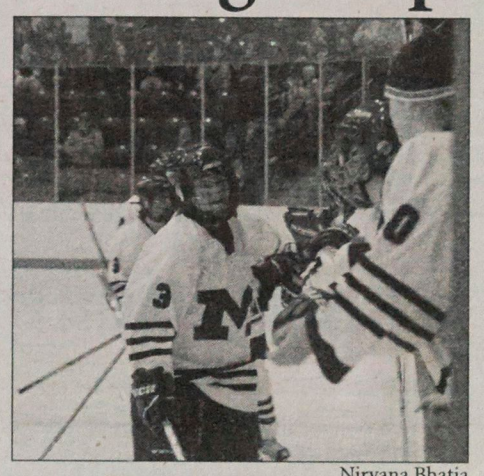
Although the Panthers continued to generate excellent scoring chances throughout the remainder of the second period, it would be the Valiants who scored next. With 1:56 left in the period, Monique Rafferty swooped in and snapped a shot over the left shoulder of Wright to knot the game at one goal apiece.

The score would stay that way for almost all of the third period, with both teams generating quality scoring chances. Annmarie Cellino '09, who scored a crucial goal three weeks ago against Plattsburgh, came through in the clutch once again. Cellino brought the puck up ice before blasting a knuckle puck from just inside the blue line over the right shoulder of Turmel.

Erika Nakamura '09 added an empty net goal 37 seconds later to seal the victory.

The Frozen Four weekend kicks off this Friday, March 16 with Middlebury taking on Wisconsin-Stevens Point. The winner of that game will earn the right to play either Amherst or top-ranked Plattsburgh, the host of this year's Final Four.

Even though this is the fourth consecutive year that the Panthers have reached the Final Four, it does not diminish the excitement surrounding the upcoming weekend.



Nirvana Bhatia
Shannon Tarrant '07 celebrates the first goal.

"It is always such an honor and a privilege to play on that last weekend of the season," said Tarrant. "This is the opportunity that we have worked for all year long.This is such a special group of people on this year's team, and we want to make the most of the time that we have left together as an entire group."

Sullivan scores, sinks the Corsairs' ship

Alicia Taylor
Eric LeFreniere '07 opened the scoring Saturday night with a deflection off of Brett Shirreffs' '07 slap shot. Middlebury beat UMass-Dartmouth 3-2 en route another trip to the Frozen Four.

Continued from page 24

goalie over-committed thinking that Jamie was going to shoot. But after two years of playing with him I knew he was going to find me." Two years of playing together certainly has produced a dominant duo: in the 50 games they have played together, Mickey or McKenna has assisted on the other's goal 28 times.

Jeff Grant's 25th goal of the season knotted the game at two, setting the stage for Sullivan.

Cherry did not let anything get by him in the final frame to finish with 18 saves. "Everything stayed with him," said Beaney. "It wasn't his best night, but he found a way."

Cherry's career playoff record is now at 12-0. "Middlebury has always been successful in the playoffs because the goalies have been able to step up," said Gilchrist.

The Panthers will make their way out to America's Dairyland and the town of Superior to prove that they are the superior team in America. They will face off against Manhattanville at 5 p.m. on March 17 for the right to play the winner of the Oswego-St. Norbert game.

Gilchrist has never been to Wisconsin before, but his Uncle Dan played college hockey for the Badgers. Playing with the father of current NHLer Dany Heatley, Uncle Dan was on the '70 WCHA Championship team. Reverse the numbers and you'll recognize that Gilchrist and his teammates will be playing in Wisconsin for the '07 Championship.

Jeff Patterson

Goalie Alex Palmisano '07 showed quick reflexes in this point-blank stop of Stevens Institute's Eric Smith's shot. Palmisano recorded 13 saves.

Parsimonious Palmisano protected the pipes

By Andrew Donnantuono
Staff Writer

Led by a stellar performance from goalie and Co-Captain Alex Palmisano '07, the men's lacrosse team beat Stevens Institute of Technology on March 11 by a slim 7-5 margin. The eighth-ranked Ducks made the trip up from Hoboken, N.J., but were greeted by the parsimonious Palmisano, who made 13 saves and scooped up 11 ground balls in the game.

"Alex was tremendous in the cage for us," said Coach Dave Campbell '00. "Stevens has an explosive offense. I didn't expect us to hold them to five goals, but that says a lot about what Alex was able to do as well as the rest of our defense."

The tape will show that Sunday's game was undoubtedly played in Vermont, for snow banks of three and four feet high surrounded Kohn Field. Even so, the turf was hot and yielded four goals within the first twelve minutes of play. Captain Nick Bastis '07 and Mike Stone '09 exchanged scores with the Ducks' John Dolny and Josh Holmes, as Middlebury twice relinquished a one-goal lead.

It was a low-scoring affair until the fourth quarter, as Middlebury held a 5-2 advantage after the third period. The Panthers lead took 31 minutes and 13 seconds to build between goals by Bastis with 1:47 remaining in the first quarter and sophomore James Guay's half-field heave with 34 seconds left in the third quarter, but it all evaporated in less than four minutes. Matt Althauser scored twice and Matt Keating netted the equalizer for Stevens with a hip-high lefty shot that beat Palmisano to the inside right post.

Middlebury was not denied the win in a game that could have gone either way. The Panthers forced a turnover near midfield and Tom Petty '09 grabbed the bouncing ball on his way toward the net. He was knocked to the turf, but only after his shot crossed the goal line.

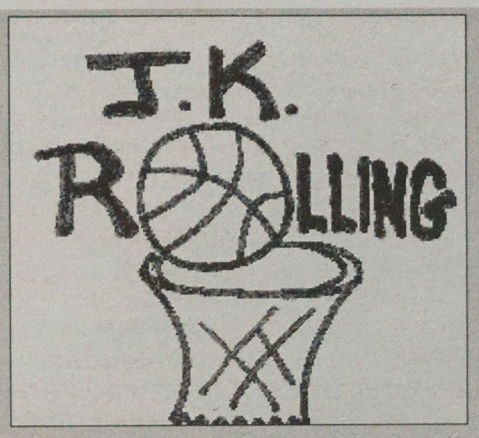
"Tom at attack had a solid first start," said Campbell. "We're expecting a big year out of him."

Even though Petty gave Middlebury a tentative 6-5 lead, the final 5:45 proved to be far less nerve-racking than might have been expected. Middlebury effectively kept possession and killed off most of the clock. With one minute left, Co-Captain Peter Mellen '07, who won six of his 12 faceoffs, rounded the Stevens net and was able to score without difficulty because Dunderdale was missing from the cage.

Statistically, the game could not have been more evenly played. Stevens outshot Middlebury 38 to 30, as they did a nice job backing up their shots and possessing the ball, particularly in the first half. Stevens collected 43 ground balls to Middlebury's 39. Neither team had any success on their man-up opportunities, as Middlebury went 0-4 and Stevens went 0-5.

"For our season opener we played great as a team," said Palmisano. "I cannot express how important this was to have so many young guys step up into important roles."

Middlebury looks set to begin its quest for a seventh consecutive NESCAC crown when Connecticut College, the team Campbell coached for the previous three years, visits Middlebury on March 17. The 0-1 Camels, ranked 61st on *laxpower.com*, will be looking to pull off a major upset and to spoil their former coach's bid for his second win.



By Jeff Klein
Staff Writer

It's that time of year, ladies and gentlemen. The most glorious time of the year; the time that causes employees to miss work and students to "forget" about their assignments. In the words of Dickie V, "It's March Madness, Babyyyyyyy!!!!!"

This year, the field is ripe with talent. Florida looks poised to defend last year's national title, UCLA appears ready to avenge last year's championship defeat at the hands of the Gators (despite an ugly loss to California in the PAC-10 tournament) and Kansas has more than enough talent to advance deep into the tournament after egregious first-round losses the past two years to Bucknell and Bradley. But in our constant obsession with the "favorites," the teams that get all the hype and media adulation, let me present you with an idea: root for the underdogs.

George Mason's remarkable run to the Final Four in last year's tournament was not only unprecedented, it was unbelievably exciting. It captivated the nation. For at least a few short weeks, the Patriots were the most talked-about team in America. George Mason's run also served as a wake-up call to biased sports commentators like CBS's Billy Packer who only consider traditional major programs worthy of getting any attention and at-large consideration to the field of 65. Yes, the small commuter college in Washington D.C. provided limitless hope to all mid-major schools that they could live the dream and compete with the big boys.

Rooting for underdogs is a lot more fun than rooting for favorites. It's the whole idea of the little guy rising to the occasion and overcoming seemingly insurmountable odds to emerge victorious. Think back to some of the amazing upsets that have occurred in March Madness over the past few decades. In 1985, a Villanova squad seeded eighth in the tournament upended heavily-favored and number-one seeded Georgetown, who featured future NBA great Patrick Ewing. Nobody thought Villanova would win. That's what made its victory over Georgetown more exciting when it actually happened.

Fast forward 13 years. Who can forget Valparaiso guard Bryce Drew's buzzer-beating three-pointer in the first round of the 1998 NCAA tournament to upset Ole Miss? After the shot, the Valparaiso team collapsed in a heap on the floor like little kids. The sheer joy of the moment was palpable.

Two first-round upsets from the '05 Tournament will probably be talked about for years to come. Behind the clutch play of guard T.J. Sorrentine, 13th-seeded Vermont defeated fourth-seeded Syracuse in an overtime thriller. Perhaps even more exciting was last year's 14th-seeded Bucknell's one-point victory over third-seeded Kansas. Here was a Kansas team that had national championship aspirations. Few could have imagined them losing in the first round to a small liberal arts school with no standout players…but it happened.

My point: upsets are amazing. They provide excitement and unpredictability. Some people might say, "Oh, upsets just make the later rounds less exciting." That's fallacious. Who can say after George Mason's run, including victories over UNC and top-ranked UConn, that the later rounds weren't exciting? Upsets make the tournament that much better. So I'll definitely be rooting for, and expecting, some big upsets in this year's tournament. Hey, it's called March Madness for a reason.

sportsbriefs

by David Infante

College mourns death of former trainer Waterman

The Middlebury athletic community suffered the loss of one of its own this past week. Dick Waterman, Middlebury's former head athletic trainer for 37 years, passed away on March 3. Waterman was a fixture of the athletic department for almost four decades, and was a major factor in the expansion of both the College's sports medicine facilities and the field of sports medicine in the New England region.

After serving as head athletic trainer at the Northfield Mount Hermon School for nine years, the Norwich-born Waterman joined the college in 1956 as the sole athletic trainer. During his tenure, which concluded with his retirement in 1993, Waterman greatly extended the role and capabilities of Middlebury's sports medicine department and made great steps to provide consistent and intensive medical care and physical therapy to innumerable College athletes.

His contributions beyond Middlebury reflected his admirable commitment to the field. As a member of both the National Athletic Trainer's Association and the Eastern Athletic Trainer's Association, Waterman was integral in the founding of the Vermont Association of Athletic Trainers in 1982. Waterman was influential in the englarement of the present Middlebury College Sports Medicine Department to its seven current full-time members, as well as the construction of the 2,700-square foot trainer's room housed in the athletic complex.

The family plans to hold a service in the spring, and asks that in lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Richard W. Waterman Foundation.

Tennis sweeps Brandeis and Connecticut College

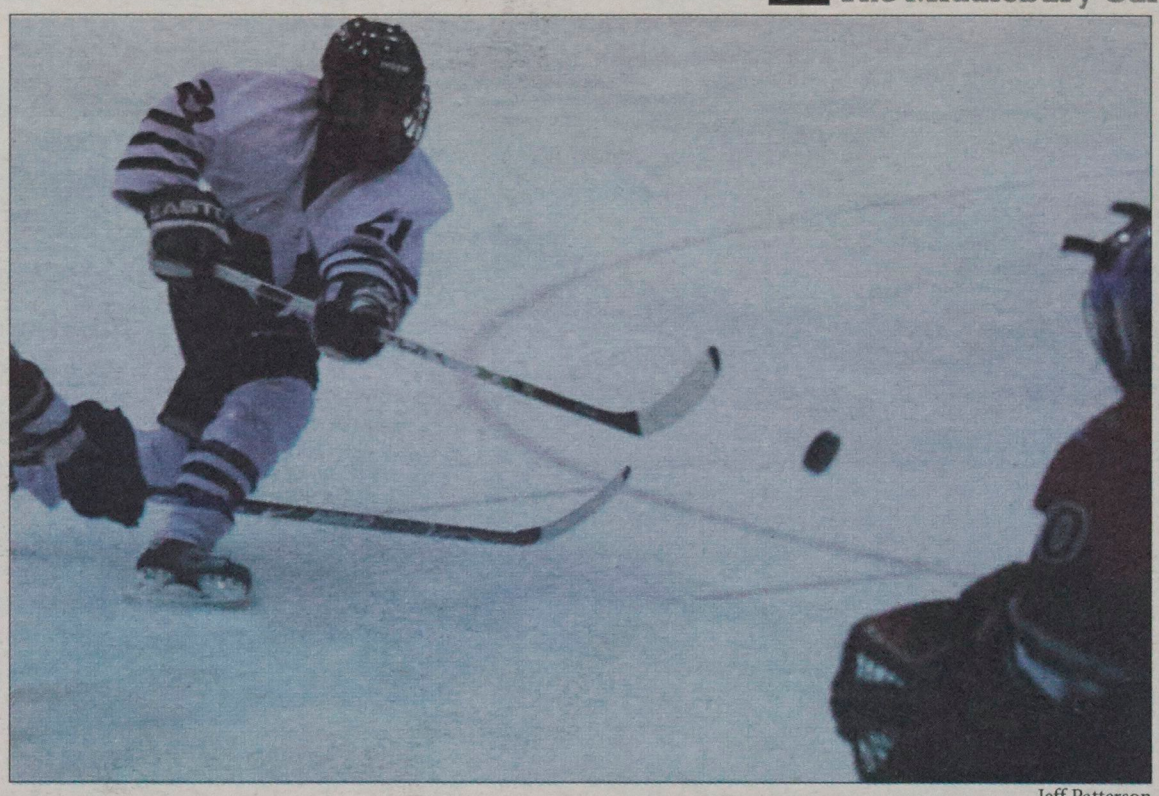
The men's tennis squad had a great weekend, registering two sweeps in matches against both Connecticut College and Brandeis University. The season-opener against the Camels went according to plan for the second-ranked Panthers from the outset. Through all six singles matches, not one of the Panthers gave up more than three games in any set. Eliot Jia '10 started the season off strongly with a pair of perfect 6-0 sets against his opponent. Later in the contest, which was held on Saturday at the College, the squad continued its stellar play against Brandeis, again denying even a single match to the visiting squad. The team will travel to Tufts University next weekend for its second conference meet of the year.

Women's swimming places sixth at NCAAs

The Middlebury College women's swimming and diving team performed impressively at the 2007 NCAA Swimming and Diving Tournament, with several competitors earning podium honors this past weekend.

Marika Ross '08 took first place in both the 100-yard and 200-yard butterfly events, and also set school records in the 500-yard freestyle and the 100 fly. The 400-medley relay team, comprised of Catherine Suppan '09, Katie Chambers '08, Ross and Barbara Van der Veer '07, set a new school record as well. Other notable contributions included Alana Hanson's '08 sixth-place finish in the three-meter dive and first-year Katie Soja's eighth-place result in the 1,650-yard freestyle.

The Panthers placed eighth in the competition overall with a points total of 179, and were one of just three NESCAC teams in the top 10 finishers, behind Williams (sixth with 220 points) and Amherst (second with 320 points).



Jeff Patterson

Alison Graddock '07 rips a wrist shot at Manhattanville's Karine Turmel in Friday's NCAA quarterfinal game.

Frozen-Four fixtures for fourth 'fois'

By Seth Miran
Staff Writer

Four is the magic number. Four Frozen Fours in four years is not your everyday feat. Yet that is exactly what the women's hockey team accomplished on Friday night with its fourth NCAA quarterfinal victory in as many years, defeating the Manhattanville Valiants 3-1. And if history serves as any precedent, the Panthers' work is far from finished.

Energized by a record crowd of 755 spectators, the most ever to watch a women's hockey game in Kenyon Arena, the Panthers came out strong, dominating the first 10 minutes of play. Manhattanville failed to register a shot in the first 7:20 of the game. The Panthers, who outshot the Valiants by a count of 39-14 on the night, held a 13-4 advantage in shots on goal midway through the first period.

"As a team we had tremendous energy all day long," said Captain Shannon Sylvester '07. "There was a confidence and a look in each person's eyes that showed an understanding that we were going to win. That sense of communal trust is something we have been working towards all season and it was great to see it shine through on Friday."

Middlebury was unable to convert on any of those 13 shots and only registered one shot in the second 10 minutes of the first period as momentum shifted noticeably in favor of Manhattanville. The Valiants had two excellent scoring chances during that stretch, both of which were thwarted by Panther netminder Lani Wright '10. Wright finished with 13 saves on the evening while earning her 12th victory of the season.

The streaky play of both teams resulted in a scoreless first period, with both teams going 0-for-3 on the power play.

See Cellino's goal, page 22

Brian Swartz

Wagner was cash at Attitash

Andrew Wagner '09 earned All-American honors in both the slalom and GS events. Look inside to page 21 for the recap of the NCAA ski races.

Spring squads swing South to start season

By Andrew Donnantuono
Staff Writer

Whether you plan on relaxing on the beach in Florida or playing an afternoon round of golf in Hilton Head over spring break, do not be surprised if you run into one of Middlebury's sports teams, who will be well-represented throughout the country in the last week of March.

Scottsdale, Ariz. famously plays host to the San Francisco Giants during Spring Training, but the city will also welcome the Middlebury baseball team. Coming off a season in which the Panthers finished with a school-record 26 wins, the team opens 2007 in the desert with eight games in 11 days.

"We have one day off so we are pretty much all out," said Head Coach Bob Smith. Middlebury plays a doubleheader against Colby and Gustavus Adolphus, Southern Maine (who eliminated the Panthers from NCAAs last May), M.I.T., a doubleheader against Oberlin and three games in two days against rival Williams.

Softball travels to Florida, the other hotbed for Major League teams, spending a week in the city which hosts a certain New England team.

"We are all going to a Red Sox training game," said first-year Head Coach Kelly Bevere '99. In Fort Myers, Fla., Middlebury takes the field against Bethel, Southern Maine, Colby, M.I.T., Potsdam, Oberlin, Thomas, Wisconsin-Whitewater, Depauw and Cardinal Stritch. As is the case with the baseball team, each of softball's 12 games counts toward the regular season record.

The team will not be completely isolated, since "most of the kids have family coming down for the trip," said Bevere. As such, the atmosphere during the softball trip is certain to be one of both focus and relaxation. Of course, Bevere points out why softball is headed to Fort Myers in the first place. "The weather is a heck of a lot nicer than in Vermont," she said.

On March 23, women's tennis flies to the home of country club sports: Hilton Head, S.C. Despite the fun and entertainment available on the island, the team will have its hands full with tennis.

"Between conditioning, practices, and matches, it really is a pretty busy trip," said Head Coach Mike Morgan. "If it is not a match day, we might practice twice. If it is

See Tennis team tans, page 21

Beaney wins 400th career game

By Jeff Patterson
Sports Editor

Justin Gaines '08 is going home. The Wisconsin native and his teammates gained admission to the Frozen Four when they beat UMass-Dartmouth 3-2 in the NCAA quarterfinal game at Kenyon Arena, playing as the road team.

The Corsairs, who had only lost two games all season, were given a first-round bye, but due to a technicality — they had failed to fill out the necessary paper work to host a quarterfinal game — had to travel to Middlebury to play a home game. The Panthers dressed in their away whites, sat on the away bench and warmed-up on the opposite side of the rink.

In an effort to familiarize the team with their new quarterfinal quarters, the players practiced like the road team.

"Thursday and Friday, we put our water bottles over there. I addressed the team over there," said Coach Bill Beaney who won his 400th career game on Saturday. "There was really no difference. I think it just added extra incentive for the team to win."

Mickey Gilchrist '08 agreed. "It wasn't too bad, especially once we were out there on the ice," he said, "But there were several times when I looked over to the wrong bench."

If there was anyone on the team used to playing in Kenyon Arena as a "visiting" player, it is John Sullivan '10. As a senior at Albany Academy last winter, Sullivan played against the Middlebury junior varsity team,

Alicia Taylor

Jamie McKenna '09 celebrates the Panthers' second goal on Saturday night.

dishing out four assists and scoring two goals, including the game-winner in overtime.

On Saturday, with the stakes even higher, Sullivan also scored the game-winner. In the middle of the third period on the power play, the first-year forward found some open space in front of the net and, seconds later, some open space in the back of the net to deposit the John Sales '07 feed. After Sullivan's flip over Jeff Green's goalie glove, he jumped into the arms of Tom Maldonado '08 and the crowd of 2,440 erupted.

"I've been snake bit for a while in terms of scoring," said Sullivan after the game, "but if I could pick just one time, I'd choose to score in this situation."

Sullivan's linemate Eric LaFreniere '07 opened up the scoring when he tipped home a slap shot by Brett Shirreffs '07. LaFreniere's last three goals have started Middlebury scoring binges.

"We're two small guys," said Sullivan, "so we have to fight hard every shift."

Netminder Ross Cherry '08 kept the Corsairs off of the scoreboard for the first 9:24 of the game by stopping a two-on-none breakaway. However, Paul Carr tied the game at one on a short-handed goal.

Thirty-one seconds into the second, Gilchrist combined with Jamie McKenna for the lead.

"He hit me right on the tape with the pass," said Gilchrist. "The

See Sullivan scores, page 22

this week in sports

Inside the Locker Room: Elizabeth Stone
Who knows the sophomore tennis star better? page 20

games to watch
W. Hockey vs. Wis.-Stevens Pt., at Plattsburgh, March 16 at 3:30
Men's Lacrosse vs. Connecticut College, Mar. 17 at 1:00

Men's Lacrosse:
The Panthers started the season on the right paw vs. Stevens Institute, page 23